III. PHASE I IDENTIFICATION STUDY

A. Methodology

1. Field Methodology

The purpose of the archaeological investigations at the Alfred Street Baptist Church was to determine whether significant archaeological resources survived inside the church or in the yard to the south and west of the church (Figure 9). The anticipated archaeological features inside the church were the builder's trenches for the standing walls of the church. There was also some potential for features associated with the earliest church on this lot, although the excavation of the basement in the 1890s made this unlikely. The church was inspected by an architectural historian, and four 3-foot square test units, Test Units 1, 2, 3, and 4, were excavated in the church basement. Test Unit 9 was also excavated in the basement, but this was actually an expansion of Test Unit 3.

Test Unit 1 was placed against the north wall of the church basement to investigate a section of wall that was to be demolished to make way for a walkway between the old and new church buildings. Test Units 2 and 4 were placed to investigate the south wall of the church. Test Unit 3 was placed to investigate the northwest corner of the church. As it was not possible to place this unit precisely in the corner, a small expansion unit, Test Unit 9, was excavated to fully expose the church corner. In order to excavate these units, it was necessary to remove the concrete floor in those areas with a jackhammer.

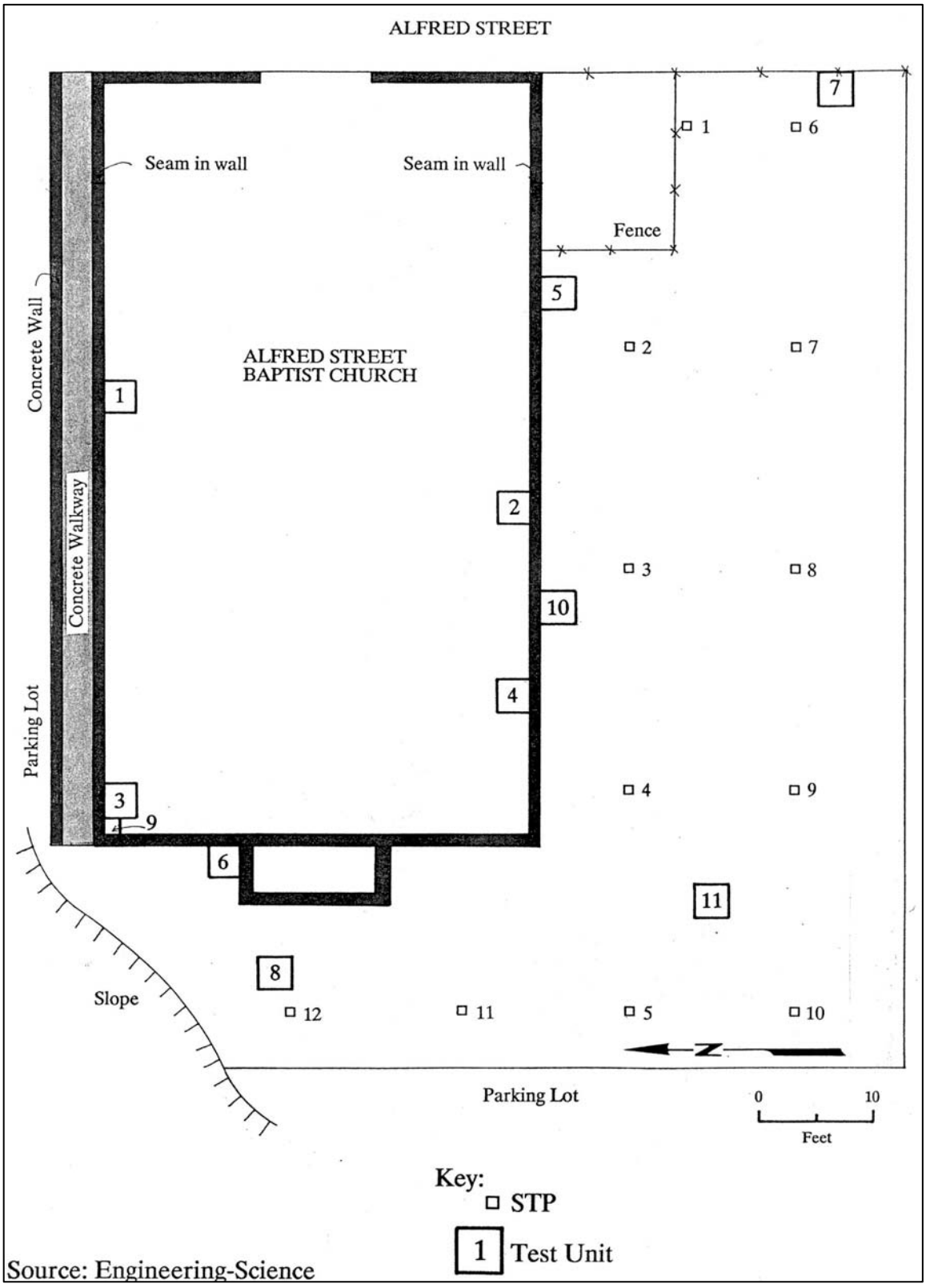
Twelve shovel tests and six 3-foot-square test units were excavated in the church yard. Three of these, Test Units 5, 6, and 10, were placed to investigate the church walls. The shovel tests and Test Units 7, 8, and 11 were excavated to test the yard for archaeological resources.

Test Units 5 and 10 were excavated against the south wall to investigate a feature that was potentially a remnant of an earlier church. This feature was identified in a trench excavated against the south wall by Robert J. Nash, F.A.I.A. & Associates, P.C. It appeared to be a deeper wall set behind the current standing wall.

Test Unit 6 was placed at the intersection of the west wall of the church and the north wall of the rear addition. The purpose of this unit was to investigate the relationship between the rear addition (identified in the National Register Nomination as an organ chamber) and the main church building, and to determine also whether features associated with a structure shown on an 1865 map survived behind the church.

Test Unit 7 was placed at the front of the lot to determine whether features associated with another 1865 structure could be identified.

Test Unit 8 was placed primarily to determine whether features associated with a second 1865 structure behind the church could be identified. The purpose of this unit also was to investigate potentially significant cultural deposits encountered in Shovel Tests 11 and 12.



Alfred Street Baptist Church

Figure 9. Site Map

Test Unit 11 was placed to investigate deep potential 19th-century deposits encountered in Shovel Tests 5 and 10.

The shovel tests were excavated at 20-foot intervals in transects 15 feet apart. The transects ran east to west. Five shovel tests were excavated in two southern transects, which ran the length of the lot. The area west of the church was tested with two additional shovel tests, Shovel Tests 11 and 12. All shovel tests were excavated as 1.5 foot squares and, when possible, were excavated down to the natural subsoil. Post-hole diggers were used when the shovel tests became too deep to use flat shovels. The soil was removed according to natural stratigraphy and was screened through 1/4 inch mesh hardware cloth. All artifacts were bagged separately by stratum.

The test units were excavated by natural stratigraphy and the artifacts bagged separately. As with the shovel tests, all soil excavated was screened through 1/4" hardware cloth. All test units were excavated down to the natural subsoil. When considerable amounts of window glass, asbestos tile or bottle glass were encountered in those strata and determined to be 20th-century overburden, these artifacts were sampled. Brick rubble and oyster shell were sampled. All artifacts recovered were placed in polyethylene bags with complete provenience information recorded in indelible ink.

2. Laboratory Methodology

Upon arrival in the laboratory all artifacts were cleaned, bagged, catalogued, and stored. Stable historic artifacts were washed and brushed. However, unless soils were very wet and muddy, metal artifacts were dry brushed only. All metal was bagged separately. Selected metal artifacts were bagged with silica gel and blue indicator crystals to maintain a dry environment. Organic artifacts that came from a dry environment were dry brushed only; otherwise they were lightly washed. All materials were stored in polyethylene resealable bags into which small holes were punched to allow air to circulate.

Bags were placed in archival boxes by bag number order. The site name and bag number were written on the outside of each bag in indelible ink. An acid-free tag containing site, provenience and bag number information was placed inside each bag. An acid-free, self adhesive label was placed on each box, stating site, phase of work, bag numbers and the number of the specific box within the series. At the completion of the project, all artifacts and field notes were sent to Alexandria Archaeology, Alexandria, Virginia.

B. Archaeological Findings

1. Church Interior

Test Unit 1 was placed against the north interior wall of the church. The subsoil (Stratum A) directly underlaid the concrete. It was a strong brown (7.5YR 6/6) silty clay mottled with veins of grey (10YR 6/1) silt, where cracks in the clay had filled. This stratum apparently extended right up to the church wall. There was no color change that might signify a builder's trench. The only potential sign of a builder's trench was increasingly moist soil along the wall. However, this is

probably due to the continual seepage of water beneath the walls. This unit needed to be bailed every day during excavation. It is possible that the continual movement of water had erased any evidence of a trench.

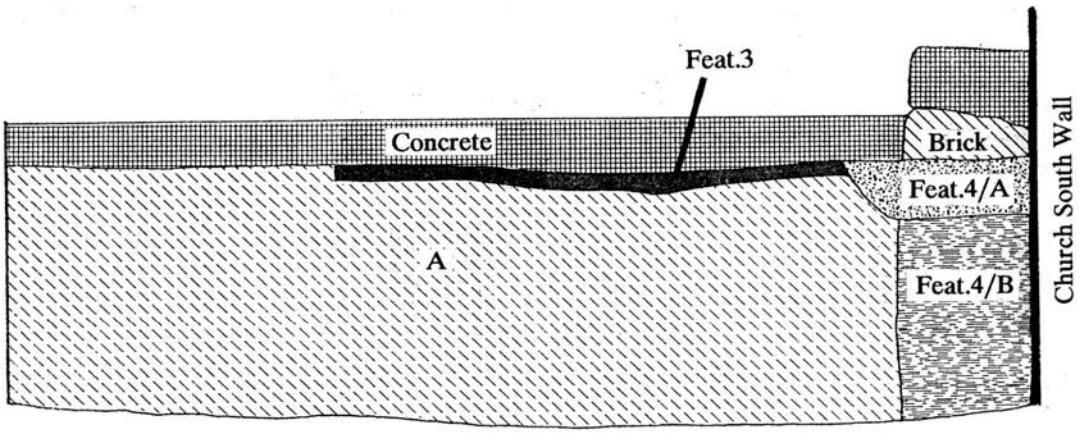
Other than a scatter of artifacts on the surface beneath the concrete, consisting of brick, slate, cement, coal, and an ironstone sherd, this unit was sterile. No cultural material was found beneath the surface. The foundation continued for four courses below the concrete floor. The fourth, bottom course was a "rowlock" course, consisting of brick headers on their sides. This feature was not encountered in any of the other test units placed along the church walls.

Test Unit 2 (Figure 10) was placed against the south interior wall of the church. The subsoil, Stratum A, was exposed when the concrete was removed. A builder's trench was cut into the subsoil along the wall in the southern part of the unit. This was designated as Feature 4. There was also a patch of charcoal (Feature 3) over the subsoil in the southeast quadrant of the unit. On excavation, Feature 3 proved to be just a shallow stain. Eight artifacts were recovered from this stain: two cut nails, a piece of wood, one piece each of brick, window glass, and coal, and two "Indian head" pennies. One of the pennies was minted in 1889 and the other in 1890. Three other pennies were also recovered: two from the surface of Stratum A and one from the pile of concrete rubble left when the floor was jackhammered. The penny from the rubble was dated 1893, and the other two were dated 1890 and 1897 respectively. This scatter of 1890s pennies suggests that the concrete floor was laid not long after 1897. Other artifacts from the surface of Stratum A consisted of brick, cement, window glass, nails, coal, and clam shells.

Feature 4, the south wall builder's trench, contained two strata. Stratum A was a .20 foot thick layer of black (5Y 3/2) unconsolidated sandy clay. It yielded brick fragments and two cut nails and appeared to be accumulation in a depression over the builder's trench, rather than actual fill. Stratum B, which filled the bottom .70 feet of Feature 4, contained numerous brick fragments, including one glazed fragment, one piece of slate, and a piece of wood. No diagnostic artifacts were recovered. Stratum A was excavated to a depth of one foot below datum to ensure that it was the subsoil. No further cultural material was recovered.

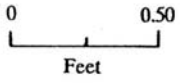
Test Units 3 and 9 (Figures 11 and 12) were excavated in the northwest corner of the interior of the church. Because of a brick pier against the west wall, it was not possible to excavate Unit 3 precisely in the corner. It was placed 1.20 feet east of the corner. After Unit 3 was completed, it was expanded to the west by a small 1.20 foot by 1.85 foot unit designated as Unit 9, in order to examine the corner of the church foundation.

The concrete in this area did not extend across the entire floor. There was a gap in the area between the brick pier and the church north wall. This area may never have been paved or the concrete may have been removed. An iron pipe ran across the floor at this point from the north wall to just east of the brick pier. Beneath the pipe, there was an accumulation of dark grey (10YR 4/1) clayey material in this open area that extended beneath the concrete. This was designated as Stratum A. The artifacts recovered from this stratum include plastic and machine-made bottle glass. Beneath this, Stratum B was a continuous layer of greyish brown (10YR 5/2) sandy clay. It was approximately .10 foot to .25 foot thick. A total of 56 artifacts were recovered from this stratum, including a machine-made bottle embossed "DAVIS O.K. BAKING POWDER", light



Key:

A	Strong brown (7.5YR 4/6) clay. Subsoil
Feat.3	Charcoal
Feat.4/A	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) clay mixed with charcoal
Feat.4/B	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) unconsolidated clay



Source: Engineering-Science

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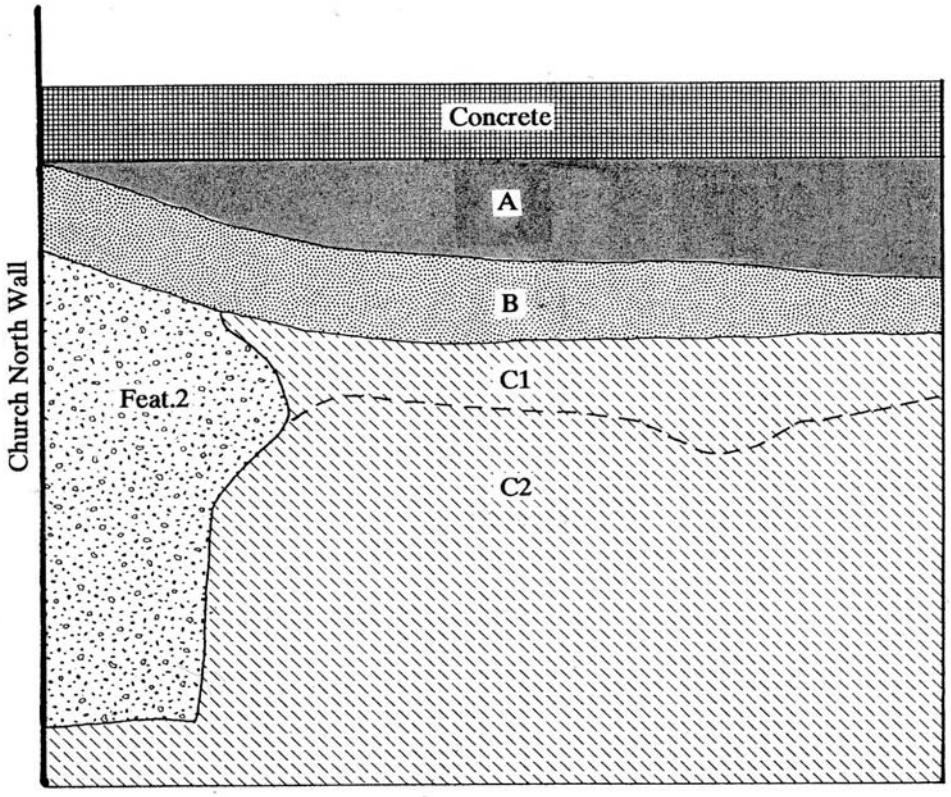
Figure 10.
East Profile, Test Unit 2



Key:

A	Dark grey (10YR 4/1) sandy clay. Topsoil
B	Greyish brown (10YR 5/2) sandy clay
C1	Brown (7.5YR 5/4) silty clay. Subsoil
C2	Strong brown (7.5YR 5/8) silty clay. Subsoil
Feat. 2	Dark yellowish brown (10YR4/6) silty clay. Builder's trench

0 0.50

Feet

Source: Engineering-Science

Alfred Street
Baptist Church

Figure 11.
East Profile, Test Unit 3

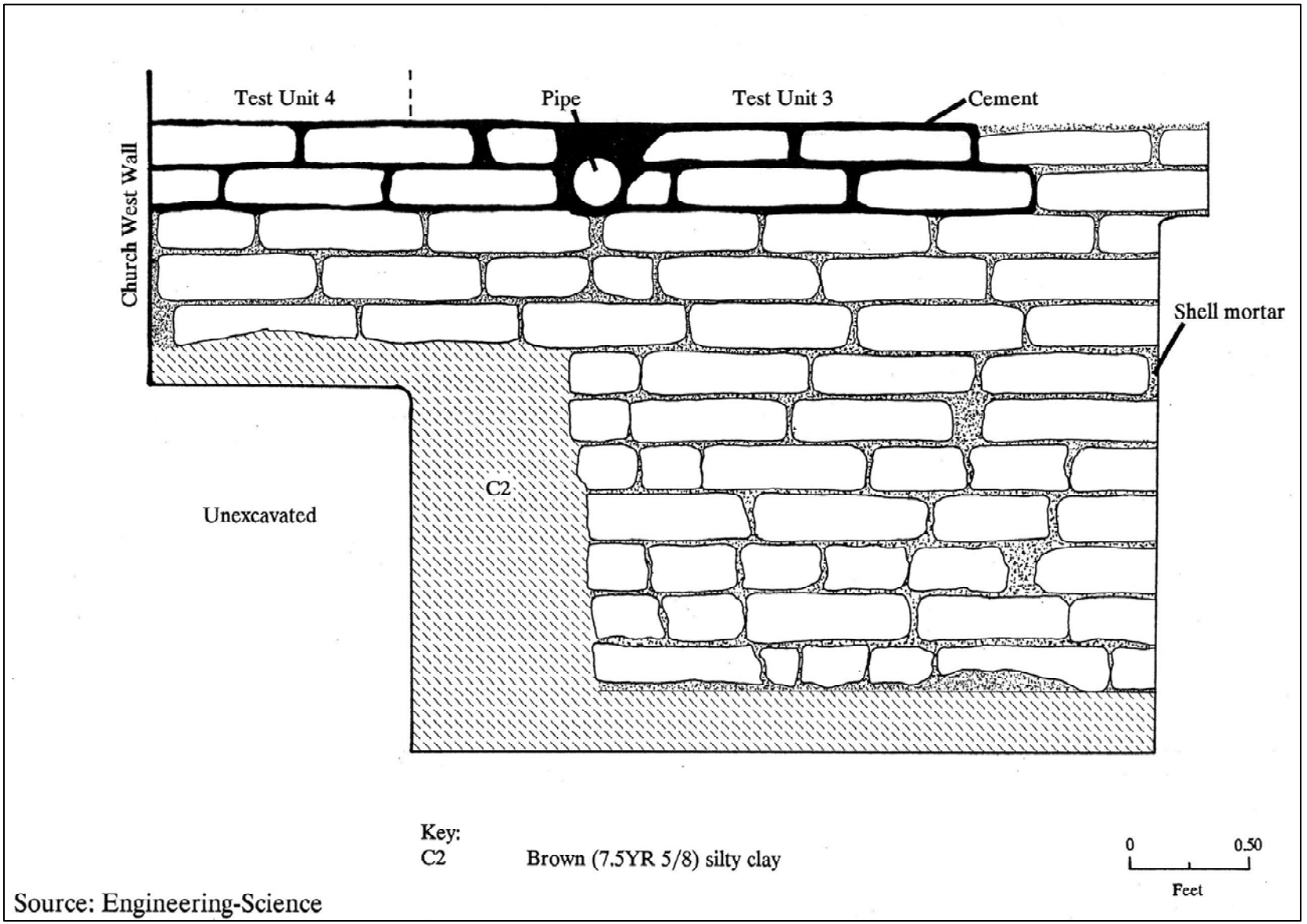


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Figure 12.
North Profile, Test Units 3 and 9

bulb fragments, a piece of olive wine bottle, and seven cut nails, along with brick and mortar. Stratum B was probably a layer of fill deposited when the concrete floor was laid. Beneath this was a stratum of brown (7.5YR 5/4) silty clay, designated as Stratum C1. Fifteen artifacts were recovered from the top of this stratum. These consisted of fragments of brick, shell mortar, coal, and one piece of milk glass. Stratum C1 faded into a layer of strong brown (7.5YR 5/8) clay, Stratum C2. No cultural material was recovered from this stratum. Strata C1 and C2 are interpreted as the natural subsoil, with the artifacts in Stratum C1 being intrusive. These strata were cut by Feature 2, which was the builder's trench for the north wall of the church. This trench extended west 4.50 feet from the east wall of the unit. It was not seen in the westernmost .50 foot of Unit 3. It was approximately 1.50 feet deep, and extended out from the church wall about .60 foot. The fill in the feature was a dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) clay. Twenty-four (24) items were found in Feature 2, none of which were diagnostic. These consisted of fragments of brick, shell mortar, slate, and coal. The base of the foundation was exposed at the bottom of Feature 2.

When Feature 2 was fully excavated, the surrounding subsoil, Stratum C, was excavated to a depth .30 foot below the bottom of the foundation, 2.25 feet below the concrete floor (3.00 feet below datum) to enable a profile to be drawn of the church wall. Feature 2 did not extend all the way across the unit because the foundation varied in depth here. This variation in depth was noted in two other units, Units 5 and 6. In this case, the foundation depth varied by seven courses. The purpose for this is unknown. It does not seem to be the result of foundation repairs or alterations as the subsoil is completely undisturbed beneath both sections of wall and there does not appear to be a seam in the wall above the change in foundation depth. The bricks had originally been mortared with shell mortar. Above the level of the concrete floor, they had been repointed with Portland cement. The base of the foundation in Unit 3 was a stretcher course, in contrast to Unit 1 where it was a rowlock course, and Units 2 and 4 where it was a header course.

Test Unit 9 was a small, 1.20 foot by 1.85 foot unit excavated adjacent to Unit 3 to investigate the corner of the church. It was not possible to excavate a full 3.00-foot square unit due to the presence of a brick pier against the west wall, 1.85 feet from the corner of the church. Stratum A in this unit was a very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) silty loam and decayed wood, probably the remains of wooden floor planking. It was approximately .30 foot thick, and yielded 50 artifacts. This material included machine-made glass, and light bulb fragments, as well as a plastic badge; "General Baptist Assoc. of Virginia / Alfred Street Baptist Church / Alexandria . . .". One mold-blown bottle was recovered, a small pharmaceutical bottle embossed "3-in-One Oil Co." on the side. Other artifacts included cut nails, flowerpot sherds, wire, a threaded pipe-joint, leather scraps, and a plastic button.

When Stratum A was removed, two dark stains in the subsoil were exposed along the north and west walls of the church. The one along the north wall was designated as Feature 6, and the one along the west wall as Feature 7. Feature 6 ran the length of the north side of Unit 9 and ranged in width from .75 foot to 1.00 foot. It cut across Feature 7, which was 1.5 feet wide, and extended from Feature 6 south to the brick pier. Feature 6 was a shallow (.10 foot deep) depression predominantly filled with decayed wood and very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) silty loam. The base of the wall was exposed when this feature was excavated. The only items recovered from Feature 6 were four brick fragments and a sample of wood. This feature appears to be not so much a builder's trench as a wood plank laid along the base of the north wall. It probably continued east

into Unit 3, but was either excavated as part of Stratum A, or it may have been disturbed when the pipe was put in or when the concrete was being removed as part of this project. Feature 7 was also shallow, having a depth of .25 foot. It was filled with a yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) moist unconsolidated clay. Two brick fragments were the only artifacts recovered from this feature. The base of the east wall of the church was exposed at the bottom of this feature. As with the rest of this section of wall, the bottom course was a stretcher course. Approximately .05 foot of Feature 7 remained beneath Feature 6. The subsoil, Stratum C, was encountered beneath Features 6 and 7.

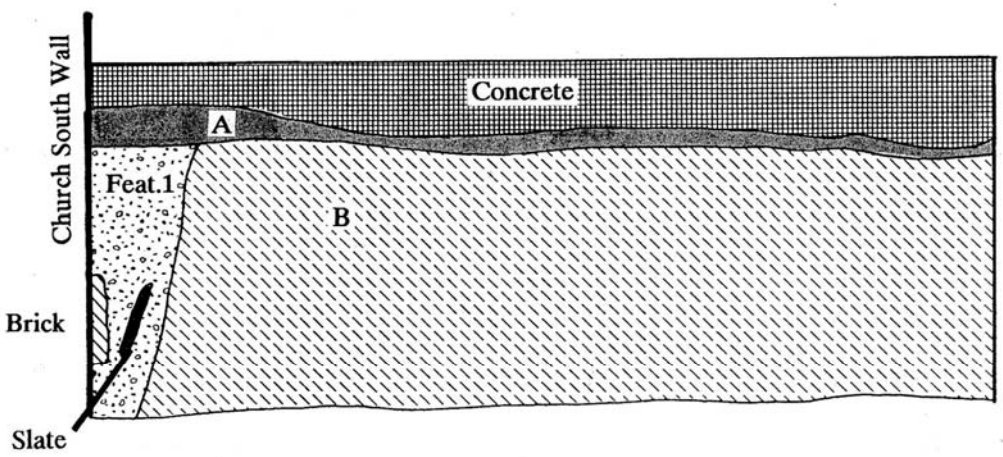
Test Unit 4 (Figure 13) was excavated against the south interior wall of the church at a point 9 feet east of the southwest corner of the church. Immediately beneath the concrete was a thin band of loose, dry, dark greyish brown (10YR 4/2) sandy silt. This stratum ranged in thickness from less than .05 foot to .15 foot. No artifacts were recovered from Stratum A. The subsoil (Stratum B) and the south wall builder's trench (Feature 1) underlay Stratum A. The subsoil was a yellowish red (10YR 5/6) silty clay mottled with veins of grey-light grey (10YR 6/1) silt that had filled cracks in the clay. There was a scatter of brick fragments and shell mortar on the surface. Feature 1 was about .30 foot wide and was filled with a dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) sandy silty clay. It was .90 foot deep from the surface of Stratum B and contained a considerable amount of broken brick. Forty-eight (48) artifacts were recovered from Feature 1, of which 42 were brick fragments. The remaining artifacts consisted of three slate fragments, one piece of coal, and two oyster shells. No diagnostic artifacts were recovered from Feature 1. The foundation wall ended at the bottom of the feature. The bottom course was a header course.

2. Church Yard

a. Shovel Tests

The stratigraphy of the open lot immediately south of the church appeared to have been graded. The stratigraphy in Shovel Tests 1, 2, 3, 6 and 7 consisted of .30-.50 feet of dark grey (10YR 4/1) silty loam topsoil and rootmat, directly overlying the subsoil, a yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) silty clay mottled with veins of very pale brown (10YR 5/8) silt (Figure 14). A .30-foot-thick clay pad lay between the subsoil and the topsoil in Shovel Test 7. A single brick was recovered from this stratum. Two features were identified in these shovel tests. Shovel Test 2 encountered a feature filled with mixed dark grey (10YR 4/1) sandy loam and brown (7.5YR 5/4) clayey silt (Figure 15). The feature extended down 1.30 feet from the top of the subsoil. It was overlain by the topsoil. The feature yielded 27 artifacts, including six tin can fragments, a possible file, some bottle glass, a sherd of American blue-and-grey salt-glazed stoneware, and a spall of Rockingham. The latest artifact from this feature was the Rockingham spall. This ware was produced from ca. 1830 until ca. 1930 (Ketchum 1983).

The second feature was encountered 20 feet west in Shovel Test 3. This was a possible posthole extending from the top of the subsoil down 1.60 feet. Eleven artifacts were recovered from this feature. Five of these were wood samples. The remaining artifacts consisted of a piece of window glass, four oyster shells, and a sherd of whiteware, which dates the feature to after ca. 1820 (Noel Hume 1969). Both Shovels Tests 2 and 3 were located in the vicinity of a structure shown on an 1891 map. It is possible that these features may be associated with this structure.



Key:

A	Dark grey (10YR4/1) loose sandy silt
B	Dark yellowish brown (10YR4/6) silty clay. Subsoil
Feat.1	Brown (7.5YR5/4) silty clay. Builder's trench

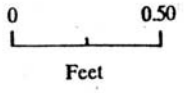


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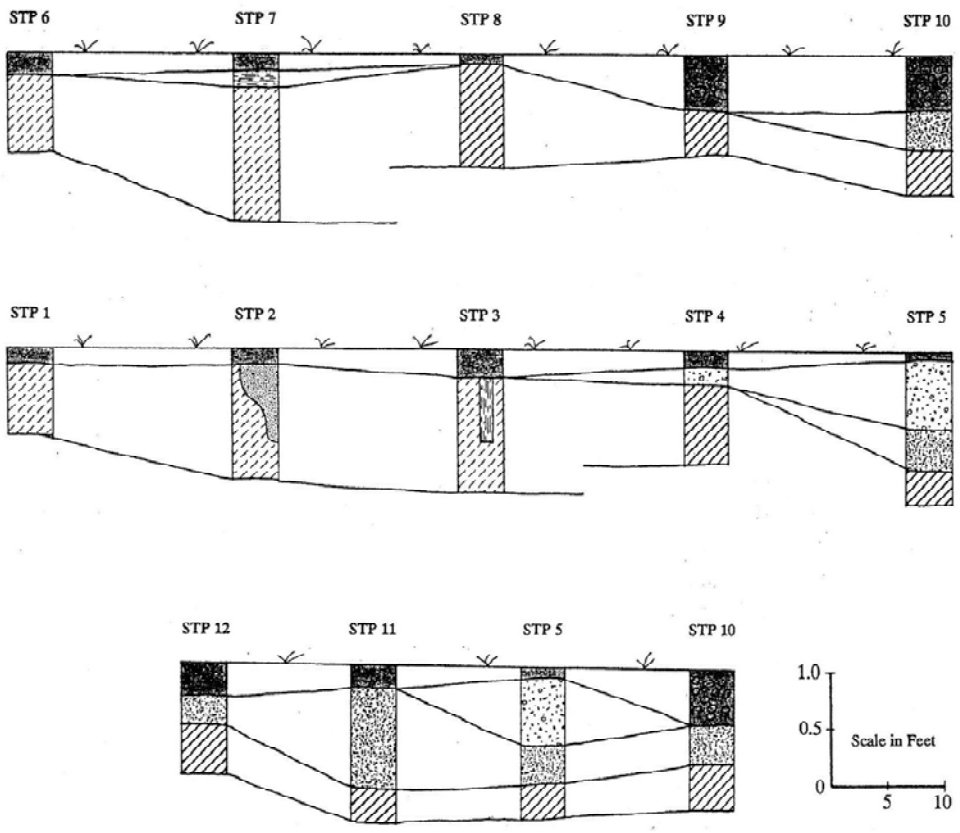
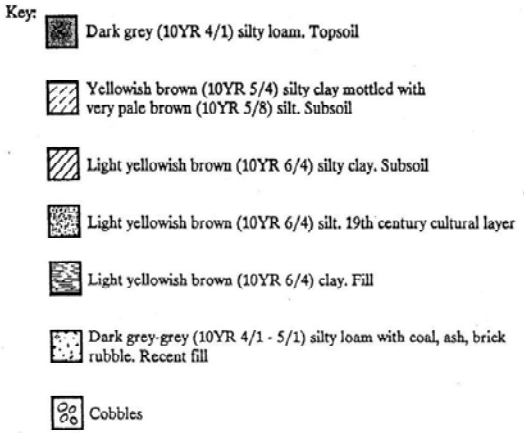
Figure 13.
West Profile, Test Unit 4

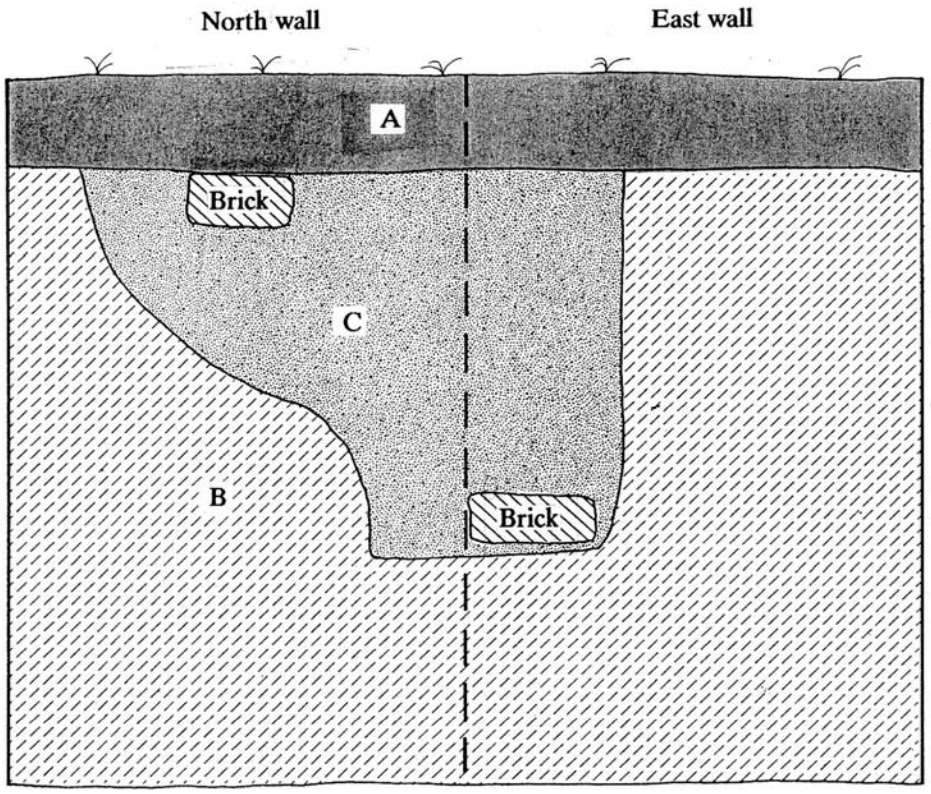




Source: Engineering-Science

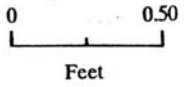
Alfred Street
Baptist Church

Figure 14.
Stratigraphic Reconstruction, Church Yard



Key:

A	Dark grey (10YR4/1) silty loam. Topsoil
B	Brown (10YR 5/4) silty clay mottled with very pale brown (10YR 3/3) clayey silt. Subsoil
C	Mixed dark grey (10YR 4/1) silty loam and brown (10YR 5/4) clayey silt



Source: Engineering-Science

Alfred Street Baptist Church

Figure 15. North and East Profiles, Shovel Test 2

In the western part of the lot, west of Shovel Tests 3 and 7, the subsoil was lighter in color, consisting of light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) silty clay. Along the western boundary of the lot, in Shovel Tests 5, 10, 11, and 12, the subsoil was overlain by a cultural layer of light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) silt (Figure 16). This layer appears to be an undisturbed 19th-century horizon. It was designated as Universal Stratum C. A total of 390 artifacts was recovered from this stratum in these four shovel tests. This stratum probably dates to after ca. 1830 on the basis of four sherds of Rockingham and a sherd of yellow-ware (Ketchum 1983). Three sherds of asbestos tile were also found in this stratum in the shovel tests, but it is likely that these were knocked in from the sides of the test pits during excavation. A fragment of a newspaper was also found.

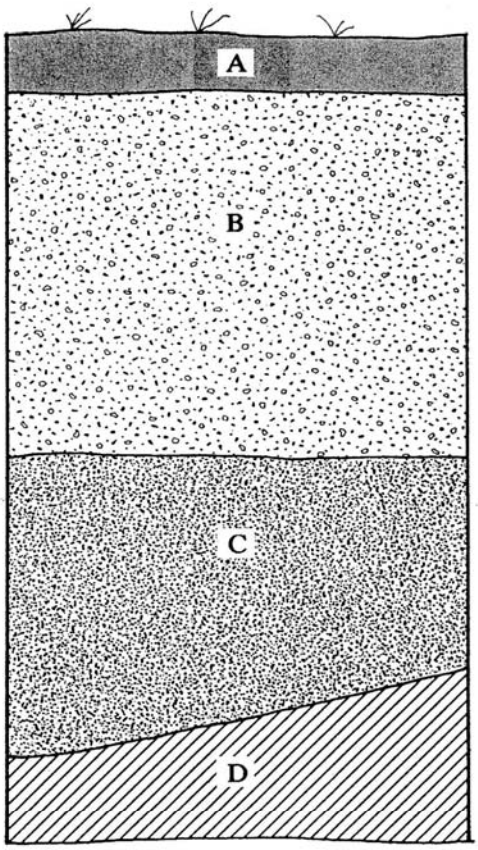
In Shovel Test 5 (Figure 16), this horizon was overlain by a 1.20-foot-thick stratum of 20th-century brick rubble and grey (10YR 5/1) silt. The same stratum was probably encountered in Shovel Test 4. The recent material from this stratum included Portland cement (Condit 1982), machine-made bottle glass (Miller and Sullivan 1984), mattress springs, asbestos tiles, and fragments of plastic. It may be a layer associated with the demolition of the houses that stood on this lot into the 20th-century. This was designated as Universal Stratum B.

In Shovel Test 10, this layer was overlain by a foot thick layer of cobbles and dark grey (10YR 4/1) silty loam. A foot thick layer of grey silty loam containing a thinner band of cobbles was also encountered 20 feet to the west in Shovel Test 9. In Shovel Test 9, however, this layer directly overlaid the subsoil. No 19th-century horizon was encountered in Shovel Test 9. The cobble layer may be filling of a depression or slope in the southeast corner of the lot. The matrix of this cobble layer appears to be the same as the topsoil. The latest artifacts recovered from the cobbles were fragments of machine-made bottle glass. The topsoil layer was encountered in all the shovel tests, and was a 20th-century layer, yielding machine-made bottle glass and asbestos tile in large quantities. It was designated as Universal Stratum A.

b. Exterior Test Units

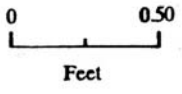
Test Unit 5 (Figure 17) was placed against the south wall of the church, 14 feet west of the southeast corner of the church. The topsoil, Stratum A, was a .10-.25-foot to thick layer of very dark grey (10YR 3/1) silty loam and rootmat. It sloped down slightly to the south from the church wall. Stratum A yielded 216 artifacts, most of which were bottle glass (137 pieces in all). All the identifiable bottle glass was machine-made. Except for one quartz flake fragment, all the material recovered was modern debris, including light bulb glass, plastic, styrofoam, asbestos, and cement.

When Stratum A was removed, a herringbone brick sidewalk was uncovered in the southern part of the unit. This sidewalk (Feature 8) was partially overlain to the north by a layer of light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) sandy clay and gravel (Stratum B). This stratum was the fill for a trench for a terra cotta drainage pipe that had been laid along the church wall. Eighty-one (81) artifacts were recovered from Stratum B, predominantly bottle glass (N=30). The identifiable bottle glass was all machine-produced. Other artifacts included cement, light bulb glass, plastic, and asbestos tile. The presence of this material in Stratum B dates the pipe trench to the 20th-century. The pipe was removed with a sledgehammer and the trench (Feature 12) was excavated down to the level of a concrete pad that lined the bottom of the trench. This was also removed with a sledgehammer. The subsoil, Stratum C, lay beneath the concrete. The subsoil was described as a



Key:

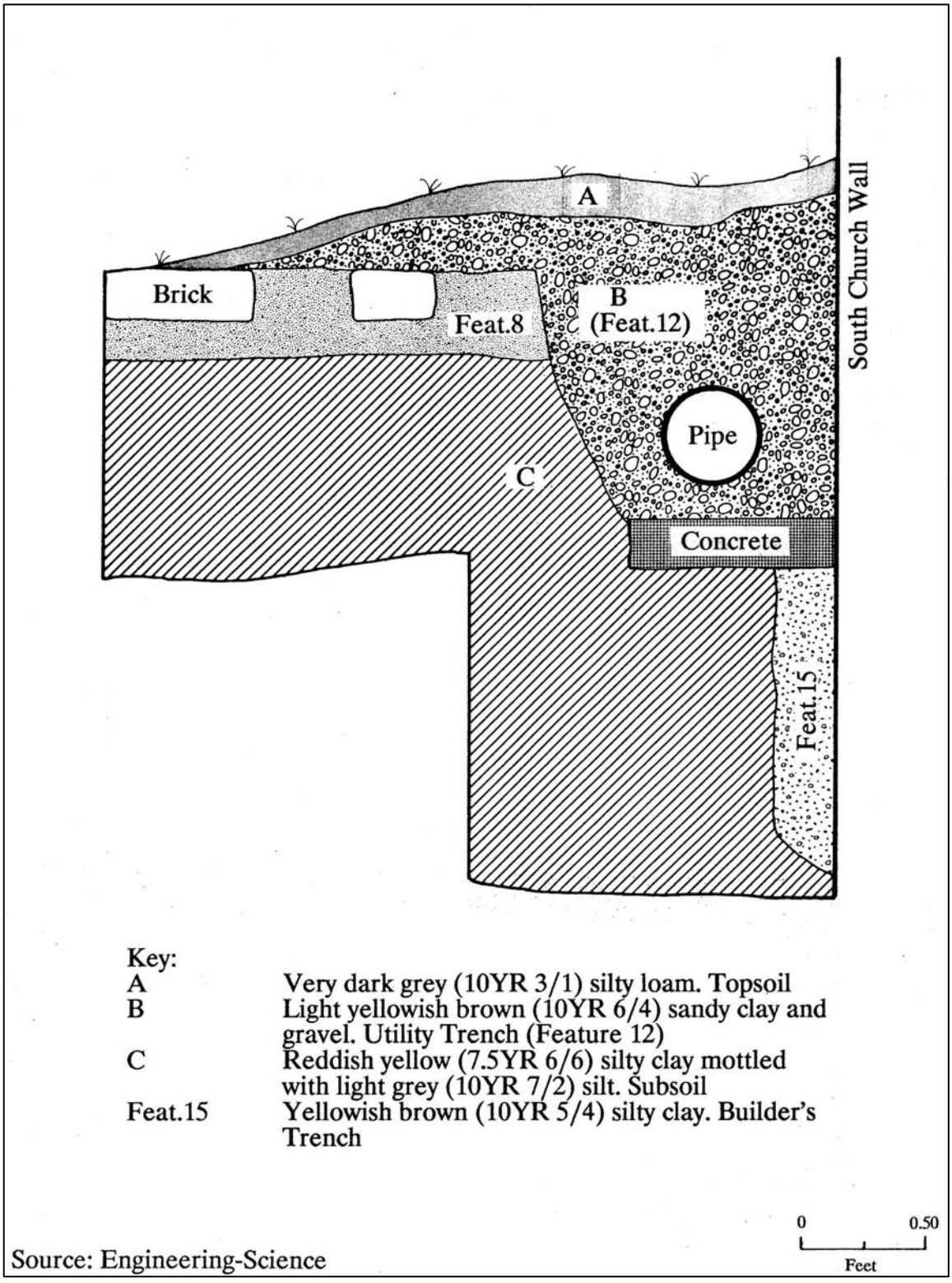
A	Dark grey (10YR 4/1) silty loam
B	Grey (10YR 5/1) sandy silt, with brick rubble, mortar, and ash
C	Light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) sandy silt, with brick rubble and mortar
D	Light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) silty clay. Subsoil



Source: Engineering-Science

Alfred Street Baptist Church

Figure 16. West Profile, Shovel Test 5



Alfred Street
Baptist Church

Figure 17.
West Profile, Test Unit 5

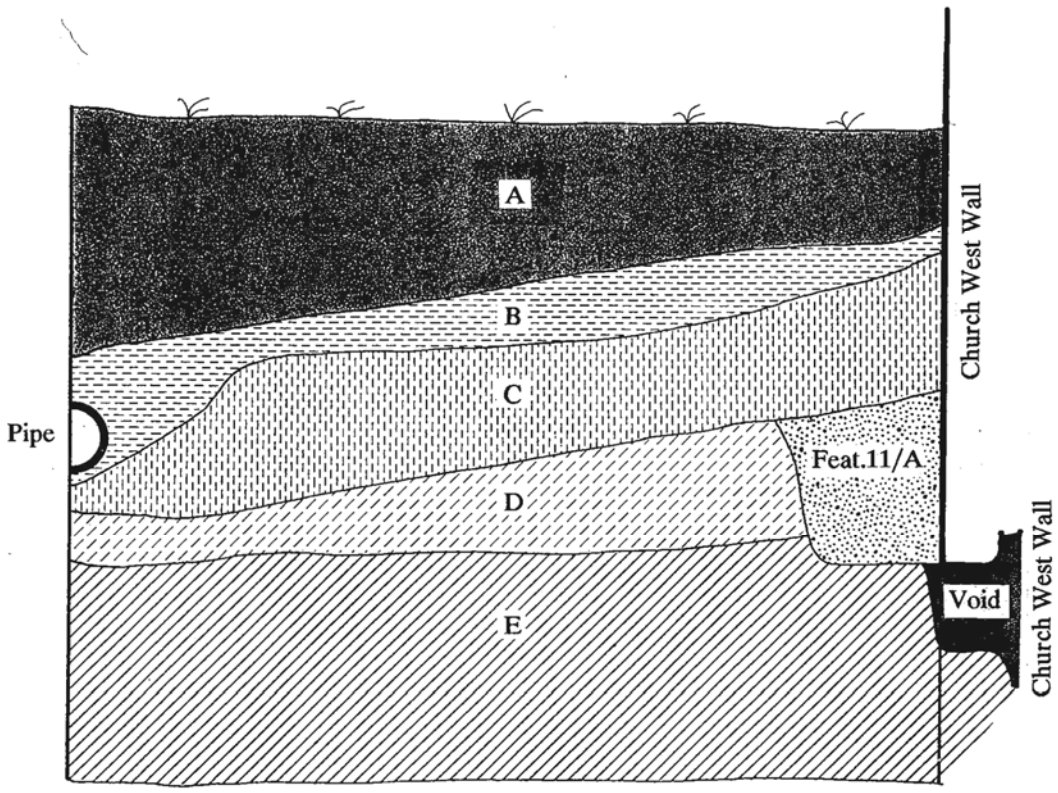
reddish yellow (7.5YR 6/6) silty clay mottled with veins of light grey (10YR 7/2) silt. The base of most of the church wall was also exposed when the concrete was removed. In the northwest corner of the unit, there was a slight discoloration extending about .50 foot into the unit from the west wall. This was a yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) silty clay. The church wall appeared to continue down in this area.

At this stage, as Feature 12 (the pipe trench) had been completely excavated, Feature 8 (the brick sidewalk) was removed. No artifacts were found beneath the sidewalk. The subsoil was encountered beneath the sidewalk and was removed down to the level of the stain encountered below the concrete. As the stain was too small to excavate otherwise, a window was dug in that corner of the unit. This stain was labeled as Feature 15 and was the end of a narrow builder's trench where the foundation was deeper than it was in the rest of the unit. This variation in the depth of the foundation had been noted also in Test Units 3 and 10. In this case, the foundation in the west end of the unit was six courses deeper than it was in the east. A seam in the brickwork was visible above where the foundation varied in depth. Although cement spread over the above-ground brickwork made it difficult to be sure, the seam did not appear to continue above the surface. The deeper brickwork may represent a foundation repair. The foundation brickwork encountered in this unit was of very poor quality compared to that encountered in the other units. Other than some brick fragments, no artifacts were recovered from the builder's trench.

Test Unit 6 (Figure 18) was placed at the exterior intersection of the organ vestibule north wall and the main building west wall. Stratum A of this unit was the topsoil, a very dark grey (10YR 3/1) silty loam. There was no grass in this area, but there was a considerable accumulation of recent debris, especially bottle glass. A sample of 68 artifacts was taken from this stratum. Twenty-nine (29) of these were fragments of bottle and vessel glass, including two fragments that were mold-blown. Eight fragments were unidentifiable; the remainder were produced by an automatic bottle-making machine and date to after 1903 (Miller and Sullivan 1984). Other artifacts recovered from this stratum were cut and wire nails, Portland cement, lamp chimney glass, asbestos tile, along with bone, oyster shell, and coal. A shell button (South Type #22) (Noel Hume 1969) and nine sherds of a transfer-printed ironstone plate were also found in this stratum.

Stratum A was only about .35 foot thick against the church wall, but reached a thickness of .85 foot along the west edge of the unit, where it had accumulated in a depression over a pipe trench. Stratum B, a dark brown (7.5YR 3/2) silty loam mottled with dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) silty clay, was the pipe trench fill. It was thickest in the pipe trench, which was approximately .50 foot in depth. Stratum B occurred as a .10-.25 foot thick band across the rest of the unit, where it had either washed out from the trench or was left over from the construction of the trench.

A total of 281 artifacts were found in Stratum B. The deposition of this stratum is datable to the 20th-century on the basis of the presence of automatic machine-made bottle glass, plastic, light bulbs, and asbestos tile. However, there were also a number of earlier artifacts. Of the 76 fragments of bottle glass found in Stratum B, seven were mold-blown bottle glass, including three that had lips formed with lipping tools. Lipping tools came into use in the United States before ca. 1850 (Lorrain 1968:40). A lip from a free-blown bottle was also found. Thirty eight ceramic sherds were found, including 11 of pearlware (ca. 1780-1820). The remaining ceramics consisted



Key:

A	Very dark grey (10YR 4/1) silty loam. Topsoil
B	Dark brown (7.5YR 3/2) silty loam mottled with dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) silty clay. Pipe trench fill
C	Light olive brown (2.5YR 5/3) mottled with dark greyish brown (10YR 4/2) silt
D	Light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) silty clay. Subsoil
E	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) silty clay. Subsoil
Feat. 11/A	Brownish yellow (10YR 6/6) silty clay. Builder's trench fill

Source: Engineering-Science

Alfred Street
Baptist Church

Figure 18.
North Profile, Test Unit 6

of 20 ironstone sherds (ca. 1800 - present), 2 sherds of unrecognizable porcelain, 3 of stoneware and a sherd of redware. Other potentially early artifacts recovered from this stratum consisted of a small copper alloy toy cannon, and what appeared to be a fragment of a glazed redware pipebowl. The remaining material included 42 nails, all machine-cut (ca. 1790 - present) (Nelson 1968), window glass, brick, oyster shell, bone, and slag. The range of artifacts found in this layer suggests that the construction of the pipe trench involved the disturbance of a 19th-century cultural layer.

The pipe trench had been cut into Stratum C, which was a .50-foot thick layer of light olive brown (2.5Y 5/3), mottled with dark greyish brown (10YR 4/2), silt. Stratum C is believed to be the same stratum as Stratum D in Test Unit 8, and part of the 19th-century layer identified in Shovel Tests 5, 10, 11, and 12. Ninety-one (91) artifacts were recovered from this stratum. Of these, 44 were ceramics. The ceramic assemblage consisted of 38 sherds of pearlware (ca. 1780 - 1820), 3 of creamware (1762 - ca. 1820), and one sherd each of redware, unidentifiable porcelain, and brown salt-glazed stoneware (Noel Hume 1968, South 1978). The bottle glass, 11 fragments in all, included one piece that was probably machine-produced. A piece of plastic was also found. Given the context of these two modern artifacts, they were probably intrusive, possibly falling into the unit during excavation. None of the other bottle glass was particularly diagnostic. Two fragments might have been mold-blown, along with one piece of olive wine bottle glass. Other domestic artifacts recovered were four pieces of vessel glass, and three pieces of melted glass. A sample of 13 brick fragments was taken. Five nails were also found. Two of these were hand-wrought and three were identifiable only as either machine-cut or hand-wrought. The remaining artifacts consisted of two bone fragments and some flat iron fragments, possibly from a bucket. Stratum C ended on a thin layer of oyster shell, probably the same layer as that encountered in Stratum D of Test Unit 8 was felt to be part of Universal Stratum C.

No builder's trench could be seen for the church wall in Stratum C, indicating that Stratum C was deposited after the main part of the church was built. A concentration of mortar along the wall of the rear addition did indicate the presence of a small (.5 inch to 1.0 inch) builder's trench there, indicating that the organ vestibule had been added after the deposition of Stratum C. The small size of the trench, which was designated as Feature 16, and the fact that the mortar had not been smoothed off within the trench, suggests that the vestibule wall was laid from an excavation in the interior of the vestibule.

When Stratum C was removed, the builder's trench for the church wall became visible, indicating that the main church building had been constructed prior to the deposition of Stratum C. The builder's trench for the church wall was designated as Feature 11.

Feature 11 had been cut in to Stratum D, a light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) silty clay, the natural subsoil. Stratum D was .20 foot to .40 foot thick and overlay a yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) silty clay (Stratum E).

Feature 11 ran the length of the wall from Feature 13 north, and was approximately .50 foot wide. This feature contained three strata. Feature Stratum A was the top stratum, and consisted of a brownish yellow (10YR 6/6) silty clay. Stratum A of Feature 11 yielded 18 artifacts, primarily brick and mortar fragments, and unidentifiable bottle glass. One piece of yellow-ware provided a terminus post quem for the filling of the builder's trench, and consequently for the construction of

this church wall, of ca. 1830. A piece of a bone cutlery handle, a pearlware sherd, some oyster shell, and a piece of coal comprised the remaining artifacts from this stratum of the feature.

In the northwestern part of the feature, it reached a depth of 1.90 feet below datum, at which point the natural subsoil was encountered. At this depth, a cavity was encountered along the wall. This was the base of the exterior course of bricks. The southern part of Feature 11 was filled with a yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) silty clay. This was removed as Feature Stratum B. Stratum B yielded only three artifacts: a brick fragment, a piece of shell mortar, and an oyster shell. Feature Stratum B was approximately .40 foot thick, extending down from 1.90 to 2.3 feet below datum. The cavity beneath the outer course of bricks was fully exposed when Feature Stratum B was removed. At the bottom of the feature was a thin layer of sterile, unconsolidated brown (7.5YR 5/4) silty clay, which was excavated as Feature Stratum C. This was probably not builder's trench fill, but rather was material that had accumulated in the cavity through natural processes. Natural subsoil, Stratum E, was encountered beneath Feature Stratum C.

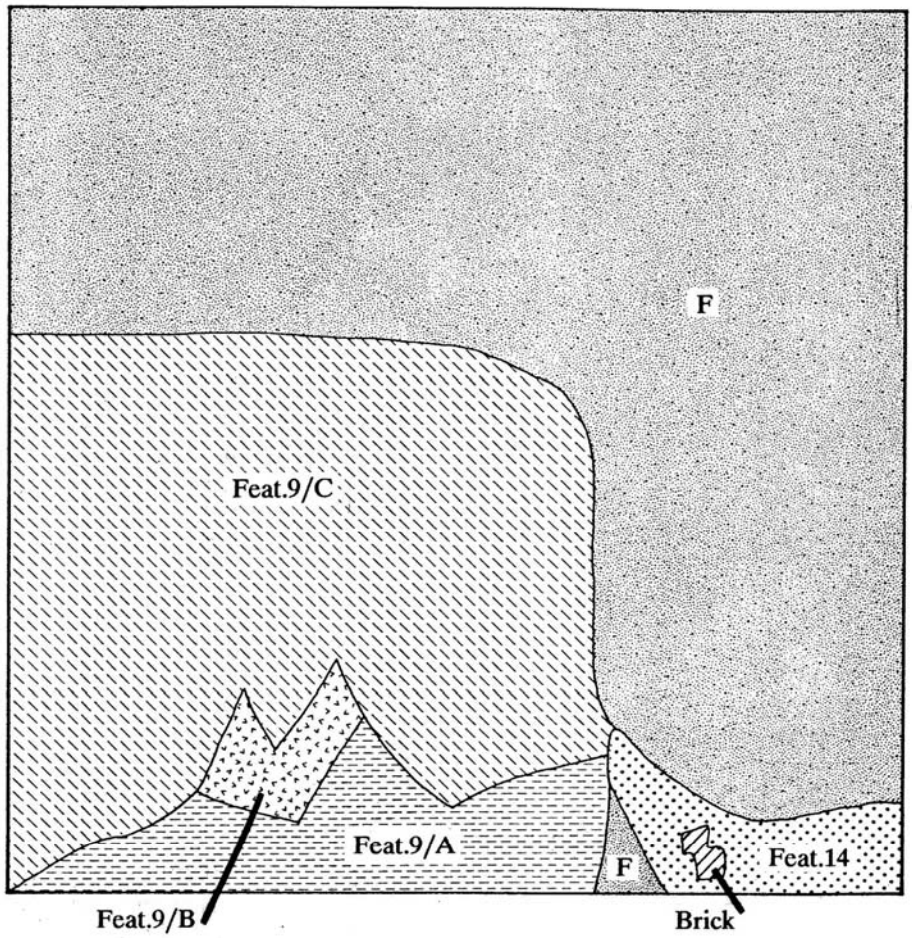
Feature 16, the builder's trench for the vestibule, was encountered first in Stratum C. It was approximately 1.50 feet deep and yielded 13 artifacts: 5 pieces of clinker, 1 creamware and 2 pearlware sherds, 2 brick fragments, 1 piece of shell mortar, and a quartzite flake, probably of prehistoric manufacture.

The section of the church foundation uncovered in Test Unit 6 was puzzling. It seemed to consist of two separate walls, an outer one and an inner one. The outer "wall" was only one course thick, and there was a gap between it and the inner wall of about an inch. If the top of the builder's trench represents the original ground surface, this outer wall extended two courses below the surface in the northern part of the unit. In the southern part of the unit, it extended six courses below the surface. This change in the depth of the foundation was seen in other units and appears to have been a pattern in the construction of this church. In contrast to the outer wall, the interior one appeared to maintain a consistent depth of eight courses below the original ground surface.

The alarming cavity beneath the foundation was probably the result of material being washed into the basement by water coming in under the walls and leaving a void.

Test Unit 7 (Figures 19, 20 and 21) was placed along the streetfront lot-boundary, 25 feet south of the church. The purpose of this unit was to determine whether features survived that were associated with a structure shown in this location on an 1865 map. The topsoil here was a .05-.10-foot layer of dark brown (10YR 3/3) silty loam. This was removed as Stratum A. Ninety eight (98) artifacts were saved from this stratum, including asbestos tile, aluminum, plastic, and machine-made bottle glass.

Below Stratum A was a discontinuous layer of dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) silty clay (Stratum B) ranging from .10 -.25-foot in thickness. This was also a recent deposit, containing asbestos tile, plastic, and machine-made bottle glass. Beneath this, Stratum C was a .10-.20 foot thick layer of dark greyish brown (2.5Y4/2) silty loam. This stratum contained 605 artifacts, also including asbestos tile, plastic, and machine-made bottle glass, along with a spark plug, and a 1972 penny.



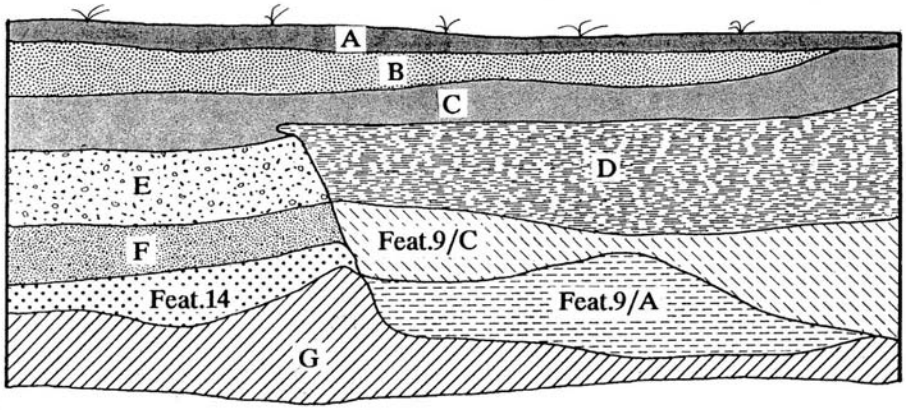
Key:

F	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) fine silty clay
Feat.9/A	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) clayey silt
Feat.9/B	Olive brown (2.5Y 3/3) silt
Feat.9/C	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) clayey silt, highly mottled with dark grey (10YR 4/1) silt
Feat.14	Yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) clayey silt

Source: Engineering-Science

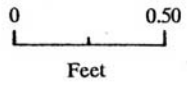
Alfred Street
Baptist Church

Figure 19. Plain View,
Features 9 and 14, Test Unit 7



Key:

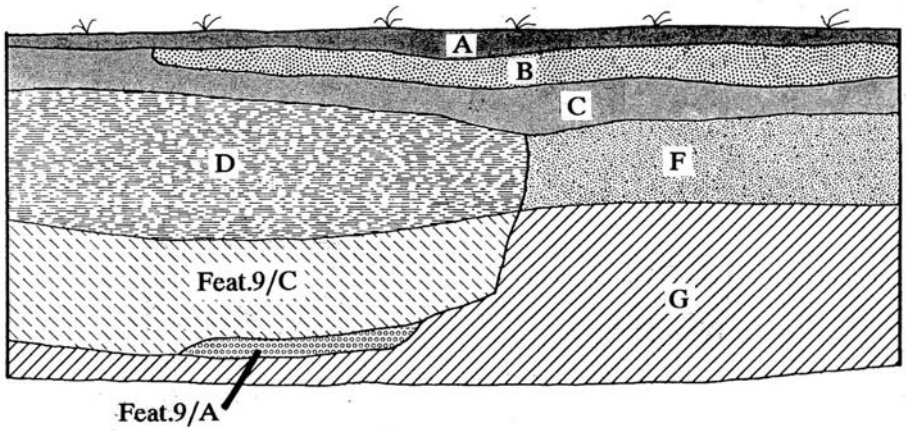
A	Dark brown (10YR 3/3) silty loam. Topsoil
B	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) silty clay
C	Dark greyish brown (2.5YR 4/2) silty loam
D	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) silty clay mottled with very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) silty loam
E	Dark brown (10YR 3/3) silty loam with coal, ash, and slag
F	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) fine silty clay
G	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) silty clay mottled with brown (10YR 3/3) silt
Feat.9/A	Dark yellowish brown (10 YR 4/4) clayey silt
Feat.9/C	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) clayey silt highly mottled with dark grey (10YR 4/1) silt
Feat.14	Yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) clayey silt



Source: Engineering-Science

Alfred Street
Baptist Church

Figure 20.
South Profile, Test Unit 7



Key:

A	Dark brown (10YR 3/3) silty loam. Topsoil
B	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) silty clay
C	Dark greyish brown (2.5YR 4/2) silty loam
D	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) silty clay mottled with very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) silty loam
F	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) fine silty clay
G	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) silty clay mottled with brown (10YR 3/3) silt
Feat.9/A	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) clayey silt
Feat.9/C	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) clayey silt highly mottled with dark grey (10YR 4/1) silt

Source: Engineering-Science

Alfred Street Baptist Church

Figure 21. West Profile, Test Unit 7

When this stratum was removed, Strata D, E, and F were revealed. Stratum F was a layer of yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) fine silty clay. The east side of Stratum F was partially cut through by a shallow trench, which was filled with Stratum E material. Stratum E was a dark brown (10YR 3/3) silty loam mixed with coal, ash, cinders, and slag. Stratum F was cut by Stratum D, which was a dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6), silty clay mottled with very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) silt. The relationship between Strata D and E is a little more difficult to ascertain. It was not possible to ascertain whether Stratum F post-dated Stratum D, or vice versa. It was tentatively concluded that Stratum D was later and was cut through Stratum E.

Stratum D occurred only in the southwest quadrant of the unit. Stratum D was removed first and proved to be about .50 foot thick. Although one sherd of pearlware was found in this stratum, 20th-century artifacts were also found, consisting of machine-made bottle glass and asbestos tile. Stratum D ended on a layer of yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) clayey silt, highly mottled with dark grey (10YR 4/1) silt. Visible within this stratum was a pocket of dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) silt and another of olive brown (2.5Y 3/3) silt (Figure 19). These were designated as Feature 9 Stratum A and Feature 9 Stratum B, while the surrounding mottled clayey silt was designated as Feature 9 Stratum C.

Stratum E was removed after Stratum D, exposing the remnants of Stratum F that underlay Stratum E. Stratum E contained modern artifacts, much like the strata above. Among the artifacts recovered was a 1947 Swiss centime. Stratum F was then excavated. Stratum F contained 41 artifacts, none of which could be positively identified as recent. This material included 10 square-shanked nails, which were probably cut nails, 10 pieces of bottle glass, one sherd each of stoneware and creamware, and a clay marble.

Beneath Stratum F was a second feature adjacent to Feature 9, designated as Feature 14. Feature 14 was an irregularly shaped patch of dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) clayey silt in the subsoil, Stratum G. The subsoil was a dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) silty clay, mottled with brown (10YR 3/3) silt. Although there was not much color difference between Feature 14 and Stratum G, there was a slight textural difference.

On excavation of Features 9 and 14, it was found that Feature 9 Stratum B was just a pocket within Feature 9 Stratum A. Feature 9 Stratum A was the first stratum deposited within Feature 9. It was a mound that sloped down from the south wall, and was subsequently covered with Feature 9 Stratum C. Feature 9 Strata A and B contained four artifacts: a brick fragment, a cut nail, an oyster shell, and a piece of slag. No diagnostic artifacts were recovered from Feature 9 Stratum C. The artifacts from this stratum were comprised of a piece each of window glass, bottle glass, and vessel glass, together with a cut nail, an oyster shell, and a piece of lime. Stratum D was actually the top stratum of Feature 9, and was deposited over Feature 9 Stratum C.

Feature 14 appears to have predated Feature 9, being cut through by Feature 9. Feature 14 yielded five artifacts, including a piece of Portland cement, which dates it to after the 1880s (Condit 1982). The other artifacts were a brick fragment, a cut nail, an oyster shell fragment, and a piece of lime. The subsoil, Stratum G, underlay Features 9 and 14, and Stratum F. The original purposes of Features 9 and 14 are not known.

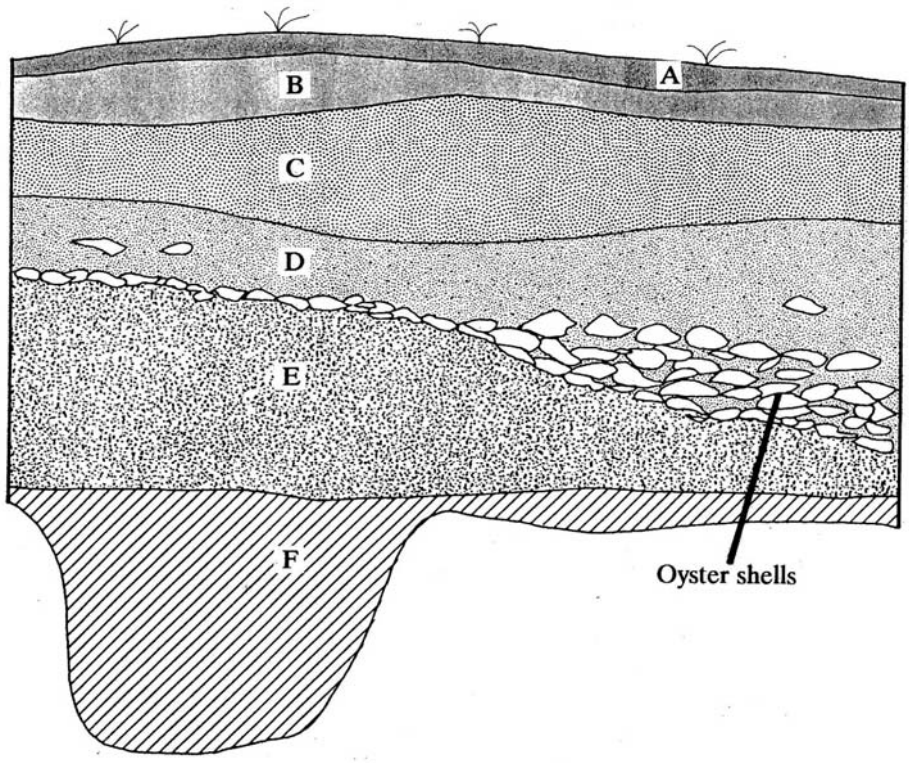
In summary, the earliest cultural event identified in this unit was the excavation of Feature 14. This feature was filled at some point after ca. 1880. Stratum F was then deposited. Stratum F was then cut by a shallow trench running north-south across the unit. This trench was filled with Stratum E, which was deposited after 1947. Feature 9 was then excavated in the southwest quadrant of the unit. Feature 9 cut through Strata E and F, and Feature 14, into the subsoil, Stratum G. This feature was filled with a series of deposits. Feature 9 Stratum A was the earliest. This was covered with Feature 9 Stratum C, which had a small pocket of silt in it, designated as Feature 9 Stratum B. Stratum D was the last fill layer in Feature 9. Strata C, B, and the topsoil (Stratum A) were deposited across the unit after 1972.

Test Unit 8 (Figure 22) was excavated 6 feet west of the vestibule. The purpose of excavating this unit was to determine whether features associated with a structure shown on an 1865 map survived. In general, the stratigraphy in Unit 8 was the same as the stratigraphy encountered in Unit 6. The topsoil, Stratum A, was a dark grey (10YR 4/1) silty loam, 0.05 foot to .10 foot thick. A total of 150 artifacts was recovered from this stratum. This material was dominated by oyster shell (N=43), asbestos tile (N=35), and bottle glass (N=47). Three of the bottle glass fragments were machine-made. The mode of manufacture could not be identified for the remaining fragments.

Stratum B was similar to Stratum A except that it was mottled with a light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) silty clay. It was approximately .10-.20 foot in thickness. This was also a recent stratum, containing a large number of artifacts, including about 200 pieces of asbestos tile and 142 pieces of bottle glass. The identifiable bottle glass was machine-made. Fragments of plastic were also recovered.

Stratum C was .25-.50 foot thick layer of dark grey (10YR 4/1) sandy loam. A total of 634 artifacts were found in Stratum C, including modern artifacts such as asbestos tile, aluminum, plastic, porcelain tile, light bulbs, and machine-made bottle glass. Some earlier artifacts were also found. These consisted of 14 pieces of mold-blown bottle glass, a piece of pearlware, a clay marble, and a porcelain doll's head. Two items were found that appear to be parts of a military hat badge. The first consisted of an insignia of rifles crossed beneath a "1"; and the second was an "H".

Beneath Stratum C, Stratum D was a layer of yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) clayey silt mottled with dark grey (10YR 4/1) loam. This stratum was .20-.50 foot thick. A layer of oyster shell was encountered at the bottom of the stratum. In the southern part of the unit, the oyster shell was about .35 foot thick where it filled a depression in Stratum E below. Stratum D appears to be an intact 19th-century layer, the same layer (Universal Stratum C) encountered in Test Units 6 and 11, and in Shovel Tests 5, 10, 11, and 12. A total of 372 artifacts were recovered. The largest class of this material was bottle glass (N=111). Four of these sherds could be identified as mold-blown, two with lips formed by lipping tools. Twenty nine fragments of olive wine bottle glass were also recovered. Ceramics (N=70) were the next largest group. The largest type of ceramic was yellow-ware (ca. 1830+). Twenty-six annular bowl fragments were found. Pearlware (N=20) (ca. 1780-1820) was the next largest type. The remaining ceramics consisted of 7 sherds of grey-



Key:

A	Dark grey (10YR 4/1) silty loam. Topsoil
B	Dark grey (10YR 4/1) silty loam mottled with light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) silty clay
C	Dark grey (10YR 4/1) sandy loam
D	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) clayey silt mottled with dark grey (10YR 4/1) loam
E	Light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) clayey silt. Subsoil
F	Brownish yellow (10YR 6/6) clayey silt mottled with very pale brown (10YR 7/3) silt

Source: Engineering-Science

Alfred Street
Baptist Church

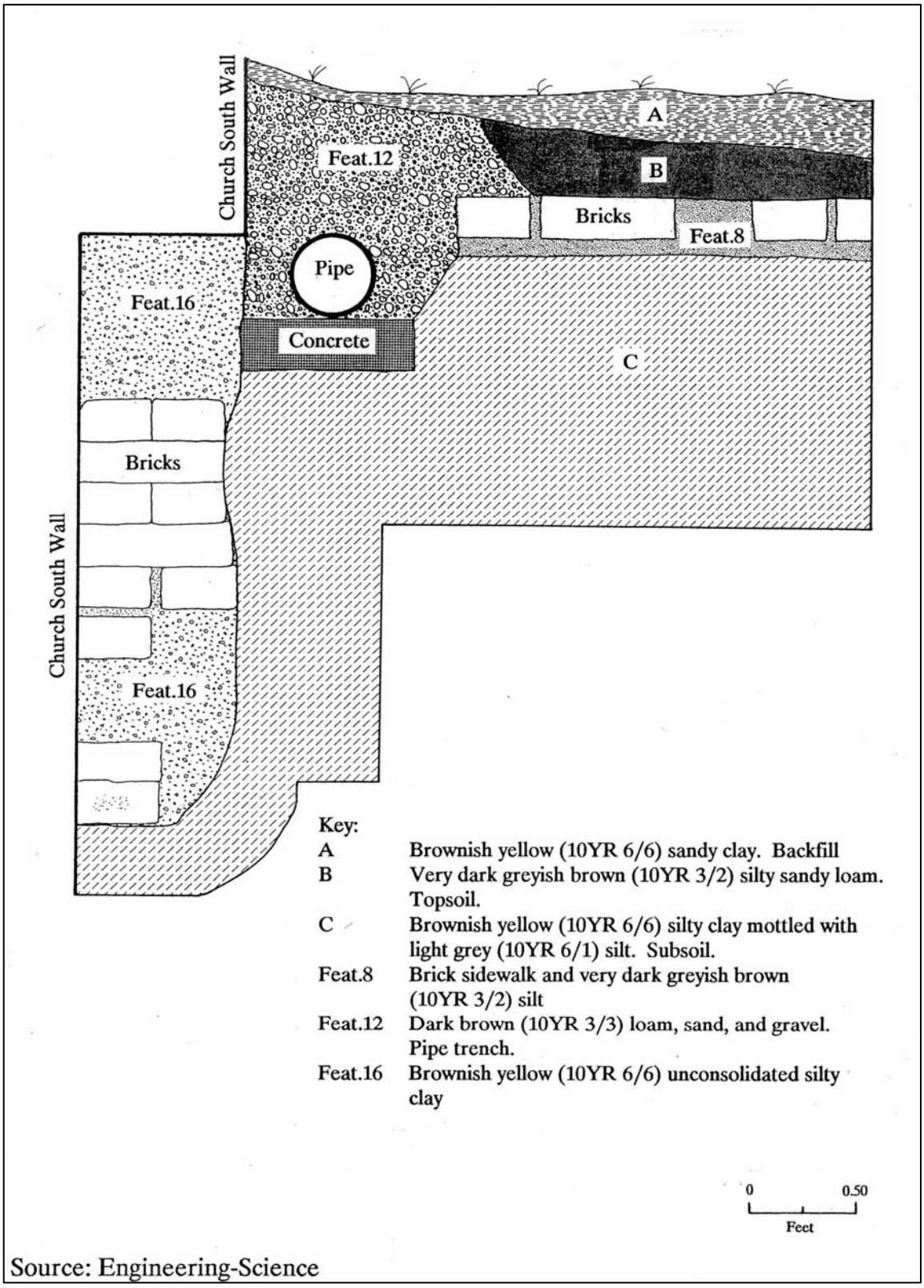
Figure 22.
East Profile, Test Unit 8

bodied stoneware, 6 creamware (1762- ca. 1820), 6 redware, 2 Jackfield-type sherds (ca. 1745-1790), 2 Chinese porcelain, and 1 unidentifiable refined earthenware (Noel Hume 1968, South 1978). The architectural material recovered was mainly window and flat glass (N=79) and nails (N=35). Five of the nails could be identified as cut nails (ca. 1790+), one as hand-wrought, and one as wire (ca. 1850+). The remaining 28 nails were identifiable only as either cut or hand-wrought. The rest of the material from this stratum was made up of butchered bone (N=30), a sample of oyster shell (N=29), three pipestem fragments, all with a bore of 5/64", a copper alloy button (South's Type #7) (Noel Hume 1968), a copper alloy clasp, and a single piece of asbestos tile (probably intrusive).

Stratum E is interpreted as natural subsoil. It was a light yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) clayey silt. Some oyster shell fragments were recovered near the top of this stratum, but these were probably transported down. Stratum E sloped down from the north to the south where there was a slight depression. It was about .70 foot thick in the north, and .20 foot thick in the south. Below Stratum E, Stratum F was a brownish yellow (10YR 6/6) clayey silt mottled with very pale brown (10YR 7/3) silt. A shovel test was excavated to ensure that the subsoil had been reached. Stratum F was over a foot thick and yielded no cultural material.

Test Unit 10 (Figure 23) was placed 17 feet east of the southwest corner of the church, adjacent to the trench excavated by Robert J. Nash, F.A.I.A. & Associates in their investigation of the church foundation. The brick sidewalk (Feature 8) and the drainpipe trench (Feature 12) encountered in Test Unit 5 were also encountered in this unit. The western one foot of the unit was disturbed by the architects' excavation trench, which was designated as Feature 10. This material was removed without screening. The top stratum in Test Unit 10 was a brownish yellow (10YR 6/6) sandy clay, the remains of the backfill from Feature 10. This stratum contained machine-made bottle glass, asbestos tile, and plastic. The next stratum, Stratum B, was the topsoil, a very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) silty sandy loam. In the northern part of the unit, along the church wall, Stratum B had been cut by Feature 12, the pipe trench. Stratum B was also a modern stratum, containing machine-made bottle glass, plastic, and asbestos tile. Stratum B was .35 foot thick where it had been cut by Feature 12, and about .20 foot thick in the southern part of the unit. It overlaid Feature 8, the brick sidewalk. Feature 12 was about 1.1 feet deep and was filled with dark brown (10YR 3/3) loam, sand, and gravel. A terra cotta drainpipe was encountered at the bottom. Feature 12 yielded 18 artifacts, consisting of oyster shell, bottle glass, drainpipe, brick and plaster. It dates to the 20th-century. A concrete pad ran along the bottom of Feature 12.

Feature 8, the brick sidewalk, was removed next. Fourteen (14) artifacts were recovered from between and below these bricks. Besides two brick fragments and eight oyster shells, this material consisted of two window glass fragments, and one piece each of olive wine bottle glass and white salt-glazed stoneware. Feature 8 was laid directly on Stratum C, the natural subsoil, a brownish yellow (10YR 6/6) silty clay mottled with light grey to grey (10YR 6/1) silt. The white salt-glazed stoneware provides a terminus post quem for the construction of Feature 8 of ca. 1720 (Noel Hume 1968).



Source: Engineering-Science

Alfred Street
Baptist Church

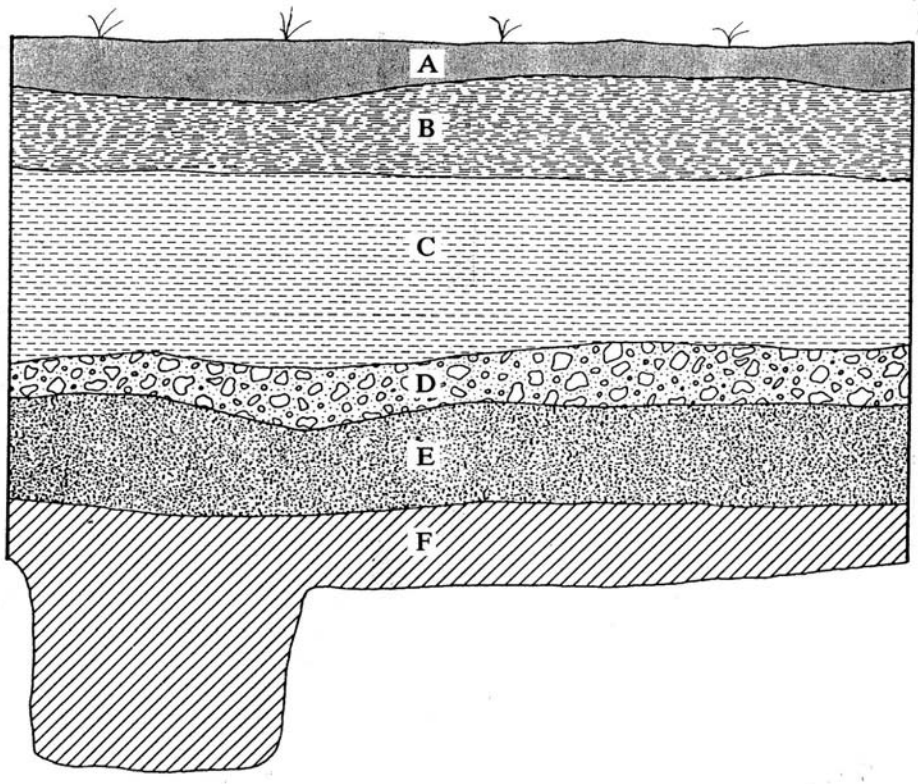
Figure 23.
East Profile, Test Unit 10

When the terra cotta pipe and the concrete pad at the bottom of Feature 12 were removed with a sledge hammer, the base of the outer course of bricks was exposed. Beneath this and extending north about .80 foot was Feature 16, a builder's trench filled with yellowish brown (10YR 6/6) loose silty clay. An interior brick foundation course, a similar situation to that encountered in Test Unit 8, was encountered .80 foot north of the outer course. From the base of the outer course of brick, Feature 16 and the interior courses reached a depth of 3.50 feet below the surface. To simplify excavation of this feature, the northern foot of Stratum C was excavated. No artifacts were recovered from Feature 16. However, excavation of this feature showed that the interior and exterior "walls" were really part of the same wall. There was no gap between the two as there was in Test Unit 6. The exterior bricks bonded back to the interior ones. Examination of the east profile of Test Unit 10 showed that the interior courses jutted out to the south, essentially becoming two courses thicker and forming a continuous face with the exterior bricks.

Test Unit 11 (Figure 24) was placed in the center of the area defined by Shovel Tests 4, 5, 9, and 10. The purpose of this unit was to investigate the possible 19th-century deposit encountered in this area in Shovel Tests 5 and 10, and to see whether an edge to the deposit could be identified.

The topsoil, Stratum A, was a dark grey (10YR 4/1) sandy silty loam approximately .20 foot thick. It yielded 192 artifacts, including a 1958 penny, machine-made bottle glass, and light bulb glass. Beneath Stratum A, Stratum B was .25-.35 foot of dark grey (10YR 4/1) ash and cinders. A total of 63 artifacts were recovered from this stratum including a small porcelain platter, machine-made bottle glass, and light bulb fragments. Stratum C was the next stratum, composed of .55 foot of dark brown (7.5YR 3/3) ash and cinders. This was also a modern stratum containing light bulb fragments and machine-made bottle glass (including a complete flask). Stratum D was a layer of cobbles and brick rubble, probably the same as that identified in Shovel Tests 9 and 10. It was approximately .20 foot thick in this unit. The 107 artifacts from this stratum included five fragments of machine-made bottle glass, which dates it to the 20th-century. Other artifacts included four pieces of pearlware, 11 window glass fragments, and 15 nails, both cut and wire.

The next stratum, Stratum E was the historical layer identified in Shovel Tests 5, 10, 11, and 12, and in Test Units 6 and 8, Universal Stratum C. It was .30 foot of yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) clayey silt and yielded 34 artifacts. Of these, 21 were ceramic sherds. Thirteen of the ceramics were pearlware (ca. 1780-1820), 3 were unrecognizable porcelain, 2 were redware, and one each were creamware (1762-ca. 1820), yellow-ware (ca. 1830+), and stoneware (Noel Hume 1968, South 1978, Ketchum 1983). The remaining artifacts consisted of six nails, one of which was square-shanked, while the other five were unrecognizable, 2 pieces of bottle glass, 2 brick fragments, 2 oyster shells, and 1 piece of window glass. Beneath this stratum, Stratum E was the natural subsoil, a yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) silty clay.



Key:

A	Dark grey (10YR4/1) sandy, silty loam. Topsoil
B	Dark grey (10YR4/1) ash and cinders
C	Dark brown (7.5YR 3/3) ash and cinders
D	Grey (10YR 5/1) mottled with yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) silty clay. Cobbles and brick rubble layer
E	Yellowish brown(10YR 5/6) clayey silt
F	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) silty clay

Source: Engineering-Science

Alfred Street Baptist Church

Figure 24. East Profile, Test Unit 11

C. Interpretation of Archaeological and Documentary Data - Phase I Identification Study

1. Introduction

The archaeological investigations at the Alfred Street Baptist Church had two goals. The first was to try to date the church itself and also to determine whether remains of earlier structures or other significant features survived within the basement. These research goals were addressed through the excavation of Test Units 1, 2, 3 (and 9), 4, 5, 6, and 10, and also through inspection of the above-ground structure by an architectural historian.

The second goal of these investigations was to determine whether significant archaeological resources from the historical occupation survived in the open yard south and west of the church. This area was tested through the excavation of a grid of 12 shovel tests excavated at 20-foot intervals on transects 15 feet apart, and also by the excavation of Test Units 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, and 11. This testing identified an intact 19th-century horizon in the westernmost portion of the lot and also a herringbone brick walkway running east-west about 1.50 feet from the south wall of the church. The walkway may originally have been adjacent to the church and was cut by a later drainpipe trench. The only datable artifact recovered from beneath this walkway was a sherd of white salt-glazed stoneware (ca. 1720-1790) (Noel Hume 1968). The stratigraphic relationship of this walkway and Universal Stratum C is not known. Universal Stratum C was overlain by 20th-century fill (Universal Stratum B). Both the architectural findings and the analysis of Universal Stratum C will be discussed below.

2. Architecture

The architecture of the Alfred Street Baptist Church was examined through the excavation of six test units around the foundation of the church (Units 1 through 6) and a brief visual inspection of the standing structure. The inspection of the standing structure identified two vertical seams in the brickwork of the north and south walls of the church, set back 10 feet from the east wall. The front easternmost 10 feet of the church is a later addition, probably dating to the 1880s (Robert J. Nash et al. n.d.). This addition, along with the rear addition (identified as the organ chamber in the National Register Nomination), first shows up on the 1891 Sanborn Map.

Mortar samples taken from the easternmost facade, the eastern 10 feet of the south wall, and from the south wall over Unit 5 and 10 show differences in mortar color and texture. The mortar from the facade was the highest quality, being harder and whiter than the other samples. Little difference could be seen, however, between the samples taken along the south wall. Except for the facade, there was little visible difference between the presumably more recent front 10 feet of the church and the older section. Apparently, higher quality mortar was used in the facade. However, it is possible that more detailed analyses of these samples might reveal variation not visible to the naked eye.

In the interior of the church, extending from the vertical seams to the west wall, a basement had been excavated to a depth of approximately two feet below grade. According to the Building History in Archaeological Databook for Alfred Street Baptist Church (Robert J. Nash et al. n.d.),

this basement was excavated in 1897. The archaeological evidence suggests that the concrete floor was laid at about the same time. The presence of spaces for floor joists in the wall (both exterior and interior) about two feet below the current first floor level (i.e., the basement ceiling) indicates that either the upper floor was raised or the basement floor was lowered at some time. As these spaces are found in both the earlier and later sections of the church, this occurred after the front 10 feet was added on.

The addition on the west wall of the church, identified as the "organ chamber" in the National Register Nomination, was also later. Evidence of demolition of a section of the west wall of the church to permit the construction of the chamber is visible on the interior. Mortar samples taken from the wall of the chamber and the original west wall of the church are also different. Decorative stenciling on the interior of the chamber wall suggest that the organ was a later addition. The "Building History" states that the pipe organ was added in 1926 (Robert J. Nash et al. n.d.).

Based on the excavation of Unit 6, the following sequence can be proposed: the construction of the church (according to the archival data, took place in 1855); the deposition of Universal Stratum C after the construction of the main part of the church and before the addition of the organ chamber; and the construction of the organ chamber between 1877 and 1891.

The excavations along the foundation raise more questions about the construction of the church than they answer. In three of the six units excavated, Units 2, 6 and 5, the foundation varied in depth. The reason for this is unknown. There was also some variation in the brickwork. In Unit 1, the bottom course of brick was a "rowlock" course comprised of headers on their sides. In Units 3 and 6, this course was a stretcher course, while in Units 2 and 4 it was a header course. This may reflect the work of different bricklayers. A third unusual feature of the foundation construction is that, in some places, the walls become thicker near ground level than they were lower down. This was seen in Units 6 and 10 and also in a trench excavated by Robert J. Nash, F.A.I.A. & Associates. On initial inspection, it looked as if there was an outer wall and a deeper interior wall. In Unit 6, no attachment could be found between the two. However, in Unit 10, the inner section did bond to the outer one indicating that, at least in this unit, they are part of the same wall. The separation between the two sections seen in Unit 6 may be due to instability in the building's structure. At this stage, the reason for the variations in the thickness and depths of the walls is not known. Some possible explanations are:

a) The exterior wall is really a veneer of bricks that has separated from the rest of the wall. This is supported by the fact that the exterior wall is only one course thick; or

b) The two walls in Unit 6 were built at different times. One possibility suggested is that the inner wall is earlier, representing the remnants of the earlier 1850s church and the outer wall was built around it. It is also possible that the interior wall is later and was added when the basement was excavated.

Considering the findings from Test Units 6 and 10 together, the first option seems to be the most likely one. However, without removing the interior paneling and window sills, it was not

possible to see the above ground brickwork inside the church or to get a cross-section through the wall. A complete architectural analysis of the church may shed further light.

The archaeological investigations identified builder's trenches in Units 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 10. The only datable artifact recovered from the builder's trenches was a sherd of yellow-ware from Unit 6. This provides a terminus post quem for the construction of the rear section of the church of ca. 1830. The fact that the builder's trench for this section of the church was overlain by Universal Stratum C suggests that this part of the church was not constructed much after the middle of the 19th-century. Stratum C was cut by the builder's trench for the organ chamber, which was built between 1877 and 1891. These findings do not contradict the historical date of 1855 for the construction of the main part of the church.

3. 19th-Century Land Use

The most significant deposit discovered during the investigation of the yard was a possible 19th-century stratum that had been covered by later episodes of filling and demolition. The assemblage of material recovered from this stratum is discussed by functional group (Table 2).

Table 2: Functional Groups Recovered from Universal Stratum C, Phase I

Functional Group	Frequency	Percentage
Domestic	403	45.4%
Architecture	237	26.7%
Faunal	193	21.8%
Other	54	6.1%
Total	**887**	**100.0%**

It can be seen that the largest group recovered was domestic material, which accounted for 47.8% of the Universal Stratum C assemblage. The domestic material was predominantly (53%) ceramics (N=215), with the remaining 188 domestic artifacts being bottle glass with small amounts of lamp and vessel glass. The ceramics can be classed in to four major varieties based on the degree of firing and the paste; and includes, coarse earthenware, refined earthenware, stoneware, and porcelain. Coarse earthenware is the lowest fired ware, with a thick porous body and an unrefined paste. Fourteen (14) such sherds were recovered. They were all redware items. All but one, which was probably a flowerpot fragment, were lead-glazed and were probably used in food storage or preparation. These wares are not temporally diagnostic.

Refined earthenwares were the largest ceramic variety. A total of 173 sherds were found in Universal Stratum C. These are more highly fired wares, but are still fairly porous. The body tends to be thinner with a more refined paste. These were usually tablewares. The range of refined earthenware types recovered and their date ranges are summarized in Table 3.

The single sherd of Astbury (ca. 1725-1750) and the three Jackfield-type sherds (ca. 1740-1780) were the earliest identifiable wares recovered. Astbury is a hard, red-bodied lead glazed ware with a ginger or chocolate brown surface. Jackfield is a thin grey or purple bodied ware with a deep black glaze.

Pearlware, creamware, and whiteware, form a typological continuum extending from 1762, when Josiah Wedgwood patented creamware, through to the present day (Noel Hume 1968). Creamware was a buff bodied earthenware with a yellow to greenish lead glaze. Pearlware also was invented by Wedgwood, ca. 1780, by adding small amounts of cobalt to the glaze in order to whiten it. Pearlware had a buff to white body and a blue tinted glaze from the cobalt that was added to offset the yellowish tint (Noel Hume 1969:128). Whiteware gradually evolved out of pearlware in the 1820s with no clear break between the two wares being obvious (Miller 1980:2). Whiteware continues to be produced until the present day. Ironstone, or "Stone China" is really a more vitreous, thicker whiteware. These wares were first patented ca. 1800 (Miller 1991:9).

Table 3: Refined Earthenwares from Universal Stratum C, Phase I

Type	Date Range	Frequency
Astbury	ca. 1725-1750	1
Jackfield	ca. 1745-1790	3
Creamware	1762-ca. 1820	22
Pearlware	ca. 1780-1820	102
Whiteware	ca. 1820+	2
Ironstone	1800+	5
Yellow-ware	ca. 1830-1930	27
Rockingham	ca. 1830-1930	3
Redware		2
Unrecognizable		6
Total		**173**

Yellow-ware and Rockingham (ca. 1830-1930) have the same buff to yellow body. Yellow-ware had a clear lead glaze, whereas Rockingham had a mottled brown glaze. These wares were manufactured in the United States, with some main centers of production being in Ohio, Vermont, and New Jersey, as well as Maryland (Gates and Ormerod 1982; Ketchum 1983). These were generally thick-bodied utilitarian wares.

The remaining refined earthenware sherds consisted of two sherds of otherwise unidentifiable thin-bodied redware and six ceramic spalls that were too small to identify.

Stoneware is fired to the extent that the body is no longer porous, generally at temperatures between 1200^{o}C and 1300^{o}C (Worthy 1982:335). All the stoneware recovered at Alfred Street was salt-glazed, in which salt was tossed into the kiln during firing, resulting in a glassy glaze with an "orange peel" texture. The identifiable stonewares here were all American blue-and-grey salt-glazed wares: thick grey-bodied, cobalt decorated wares, generally used for utilitarian items. Production of this type of ware in America probably began with Johan Crolius, who arrived in New York from Germany in 1718 (Myers 1977:3).

Porcelains are the highest fired ceramics with a vitreous body and glaze. Thirteen (13) sherds of porcelain were found. Two could be identified as Chinese imports, while the rest were unrecognizable. Chinese porcelain was imported to the colonies before 1650 and continues to be

imported, although in lesser amounts, in the present day. Through the first half of the 18th-century, it was a luxury item becoming increasingly common thereafter (Noel Hume 1968; Curtis 1988).

Using the temporally diagnostic ceramics, it was possible to calculate a mean ceramic date for Universal Stratum C of 1818.99 (Table 4) (South 1978).

Table 4: Mean Ceramic Date for Universal Stratum C, Phase I

Ware	Date Range	Median Date	Frequency
Chinese porcelain	ca. 1800-1830	1815	2
Whiteware	ca. 1820+	1860	2
Ironstone	ca. 1813+	1857	5
Jackfield	ca. 1740-1780	1760	3
Astbury	ca. 1725-1750	1738	1
Yellow-ware	ca. 1830-1930	1880	27
Rockingham	ca. 1830-1930	1880	3
Creamware	ca. 1762-1820	1791	22
Underglaze polychrome pearlware	ca. 1820-1840	1830	8
Transfer-printed pearlware	ca. 1795-1840	1818	7
Underglaze blue pearlware	ca. 1780-1820	1800	17
Blue and green edged pearlware	ca. 1780-1830	1805	3
Undecorated pearlware	ca. 1780-1830	1805	67
Mean Ceramic Date	**1818.99**		

The Mean Ceramic Date is an average of the medians of ceramic date ranges (South 1978). This formula sometime yields spuriously early dates due the arbitrary end-date of 1900 assigned to whiteware and ironstone, which are actually still manufactured today. The 1830 end-date for Chinese porcelain is also earlier than it should be. However, in the case of Alfred Street Baptist Church, so little Chinese porcelain, whiteware, and ironstone was recovered that they would have had a minimal effect on the mean date. Another caveat is that this formula uses the median dates of the manufacture date ranges. There is a "lag" between the manufacture and the deposition of ceramics. This is the period in which the ceramic is actually being used. Careful curation or the purchase of out-of-date styles will lead to an even greater manufacture-deposition lag. This lag is often greater on both slave and free African-American sites (Otto 1984; Cressey 1985). This is due, in great part, to the economic position occupied by most African-Americans in the 19th-century.

The 188 remaining domestic artifacts were predominantly bottle glass (N=178). Five of the bottle glass sherds were identifiable as blown-in-mold. Two of these had lips formed with lipping tools, which were used from the 1820s into the 1920s (Jones and Sullivan 1985). One fragment of bottle glass was produced in an automatic bottle-making machine and is datable to after 1903. This piece may be intrusive as there is little else to indicate a 20th-century date for this stratum. Forty three (43) fragments were identifiable only as molded. It was not possible to tell whether they were

produced by a machine mold or not. The mode of manufacture of the remaining 129 pieces of bottle glass was unidentifiable.

The architectural material from Universal Stratum C was comprised mainly of a sample of window glass (N=114) and brick (N=20), along with some mortar, shell plaster, and three pieces of asbestos tile, which may be intrusive. Seventy seven nails were recovered. Three of these were hand-wrought, ten were cut (ca. 1790+), and one was a wire nail (ca. 1850+) (Nelson 1968). Forty-five (45) of the nails had square shanks and were either cut or hand-wrought, and the remainder were too corroded to be identified.

The third largest functional group recovered was faunal material. Forty-six (46) of the 193 faunal items were bones, forty of which had butchery marks. Two of the bones were identifiable as cow bones. The rest of the faunal material consisted of a sample of oyster shell. One clam shell was also saved.

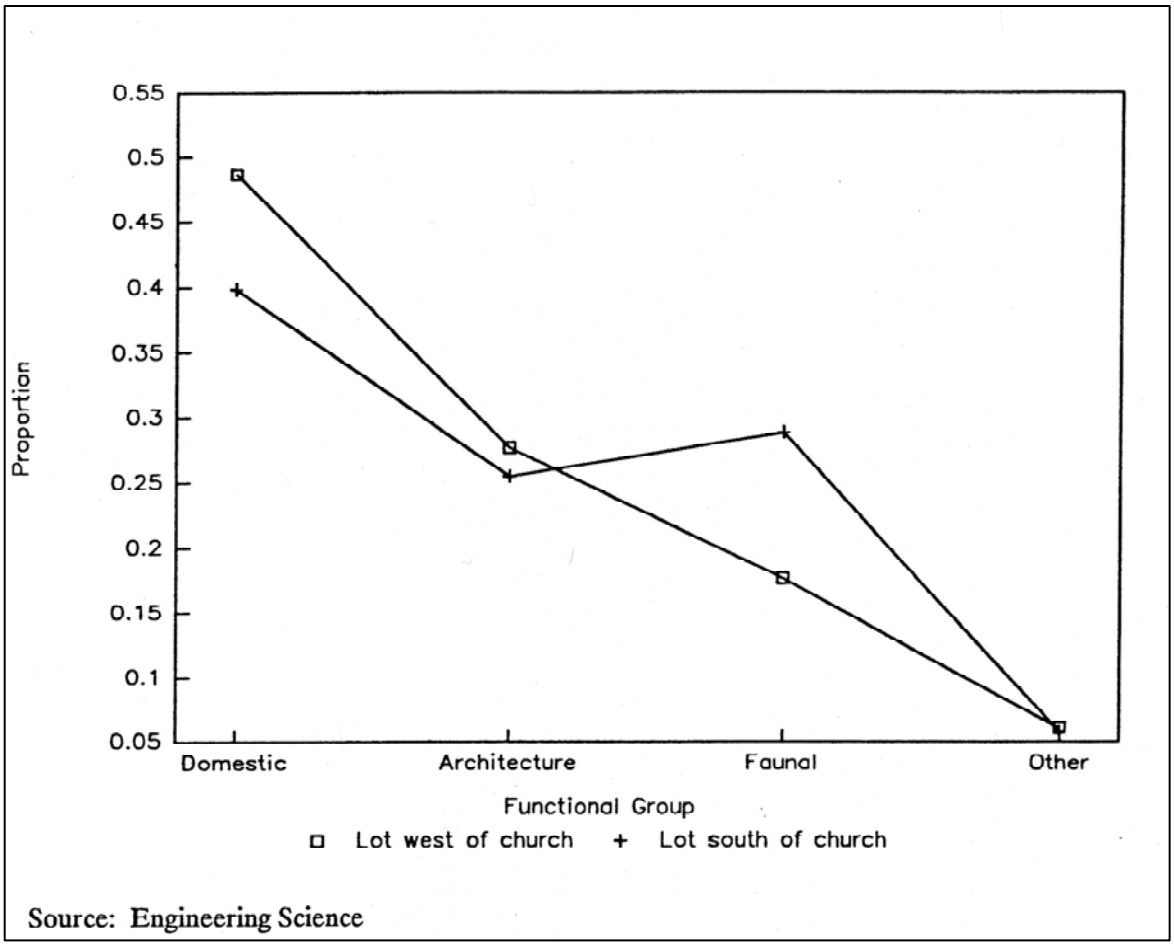
The rest of the artifacts recovered from Stratum C, 54 items in all, were made up mainly of material classed as "domestic/industrial": unrecognizable iron fragments, clinker, slag, and coal. Eight "personal" artifacts were found consisting of three kaolin pipestems (all 5/64" bore), a kaolin pipebowl, a copper alloy clasp, and three buttons. Two of the buttons were porcelain, and one was copper alloy.

In conclusion, Universal Stratum C is a stratum of domestic refuse and architectural debris deposited along the rear of the lot. Its deposition appears to post-date that of the church as it overlay the builder's trench for the west wall of the church (Feature 11) identified in Test Unit 6. As a piece of yellow-ware was recovered from Feature 11, a terminus post quem of ca. 1830 can be assigned to the construction of the west wall and the deposition of Universal Stratum C.

The section of this yard south of the church was not acquired by the church until 1919. In 1817, there was a one-story building on the lot and the lot was occupied by free Black tenants. These tenants, the Beckley family, occupied the lot until at least 1850. In 1841, William Beckley, is listed as a pauper. A building is shown on the front part of the lot on the 1865 map (Figure 3). This building was gone by 1877 (Figure 4). By 1891, another building had been constructed in the central part of the lot. It was gone by 1921, after the church's purchase of the property.

The section directly behind the church was, however, always part of the church property. Two structures were shown behind the church on the 1865 map. They are not shown on the later maps. These may have been residential structures for the pastor or the caretaker of the church.

The artifact assemblages recovered from these two areas, west of the church and south of the church, were compared to see if there were any differences that might indicate different land-uses. The artifacts from Universal Stratum C from Test Units 6 and 8 and Shovel Tests 11 and 12 were compared to those from Test Unit 11 and Shovel Tests 5 and 10. Proportions of the functional artifact groups that made up each assemblage were compared (Figure 25).



Alfred Street Baptist Church

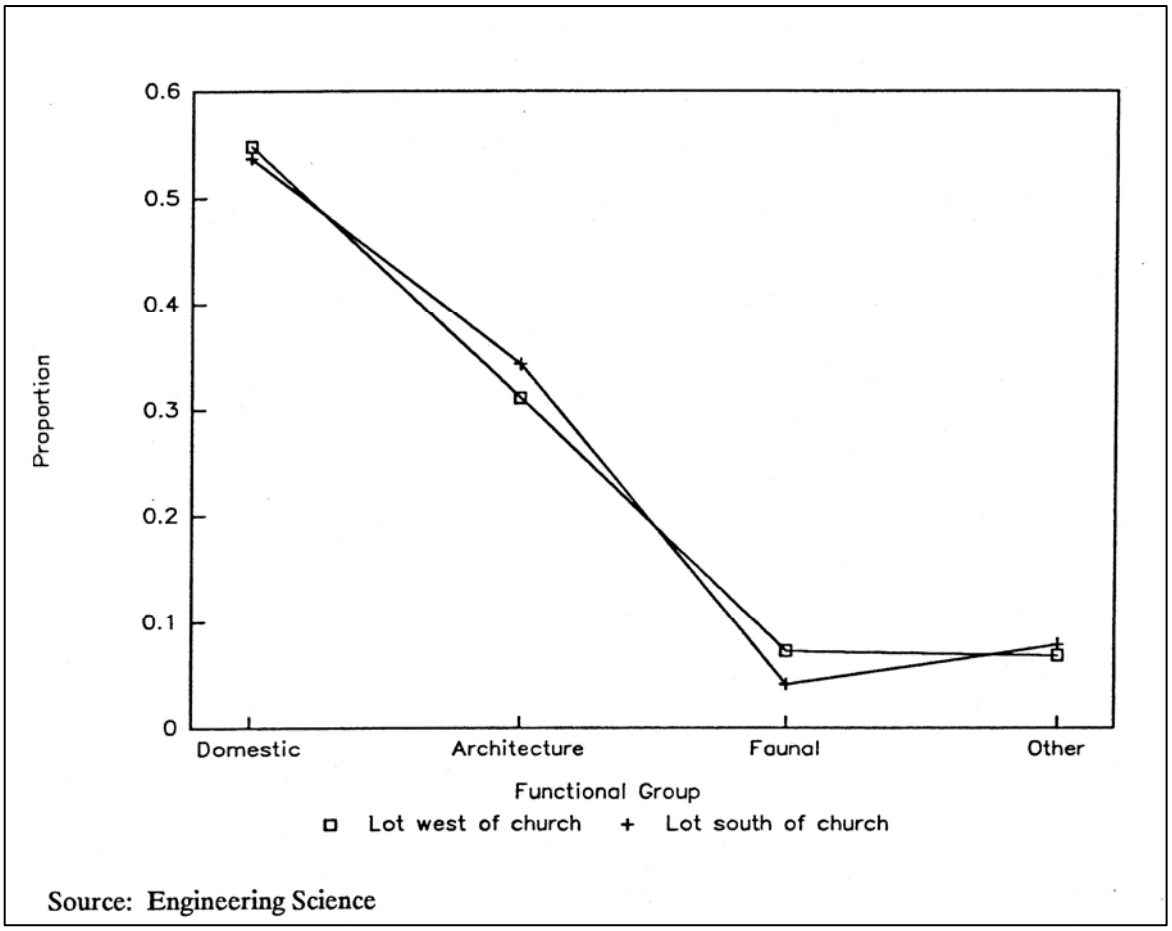
Figure 25. Artifact Functional Groups by Lot Area, Universal Stratum C

It can be seen that the main difference between the two areas is the greater proportion of faunal material recovered from the excavations behind the church. This is due to the large amounts of oyster shell recovered from Units 6 and 8. This oyster shell may have been a path or drainage for a garden. Otherwise there was little difference in the functional make-up of the assemblages. When the oyster shell is not included in the analysis, the proportions of the artifact groups from the two areas are nearly identical (Figure 26). There was proportionally as much architectural debris and domestic refuse in the church lot as on the residential lot. This may indicate that both areas had residential occupations. However, it is not possible to determine, at this stage, whether the material comes from the same or different households. Comparison of the mean ceramic dates did not reveal much difference in the dates of the occupations. The units behind the church yielded a date of 1820.19, whereas the ones in the yard south of the church yielded a slightly earlier date of 1815.83. Given the small size of the sample, this difference in dates is not felt to be significant.

This deposit is probably household refuse associated with the Beckley family, who were free African-American tenants who occupied the lot adjacent to the church during the 19th-century. The historical evidence indicates that this was a poor family. William Beckley is recorded in the tax assessments in the 1840s as a pauper. The property value of the lot on which the Beckleys reside is very low. When compared to data recovered by Alexandria Archaeology for the 19th-

century (Cressey 1985), the Beckley property consistently falls in the lowest 10% of Alexandria property values.

The Alfred Street Church neighborhood, known in the 19th-century as "The Bottoms", was a free African-American middle and working class neighborhood. In the Core-Periphery Model proposed for Alexandria (Cressey et al. 1982), "The Bottoms" was a peripheral neighborhood. This model analyzes the spatial organization of the city as an expression of the economic and political relationships that structure society. "The Bottoms" was essentially peripheral to the economic and political core of Alexandria. The peripheral areas sustained the core area, providing capital (taxes, rent, etc.) and the labor force, but were denied access to profits that accumulated in the core. The fact that "The Bottoms" was peripheral, however, allowed it to maintain distinct cultural institutions and to preserve a certain amount of independence from the dominant white society, which was oriented to the waterfront and had little interest in assimilating the peripheral areas (Cressey et al. 1982). The construction of the Alfred Street Baptist Church is a good example of self-sufficiency in a peripheral area.



Alfred Street Baptist Church

Figure 26. Artifact Functional Groups by Lot Area, Universal Stratum C (without Oyster Shell)

Some archaeological work has been conducted in "The Bottoms" by Alexandria Archaeology with the excavation of a privy well from a free African-American site near the intersection of Gibbon and Alfred Streets (Cressey et al. 1982). Another free African-American site investigated was the Coleman Site on the 400 block of South Royal Street, which was in a neighborhood called "Hayti" (McCord 1985; Cressey 1985). These sites would provide a database for comparative purposes permitting investigation of differentiation within the free African-American communities.

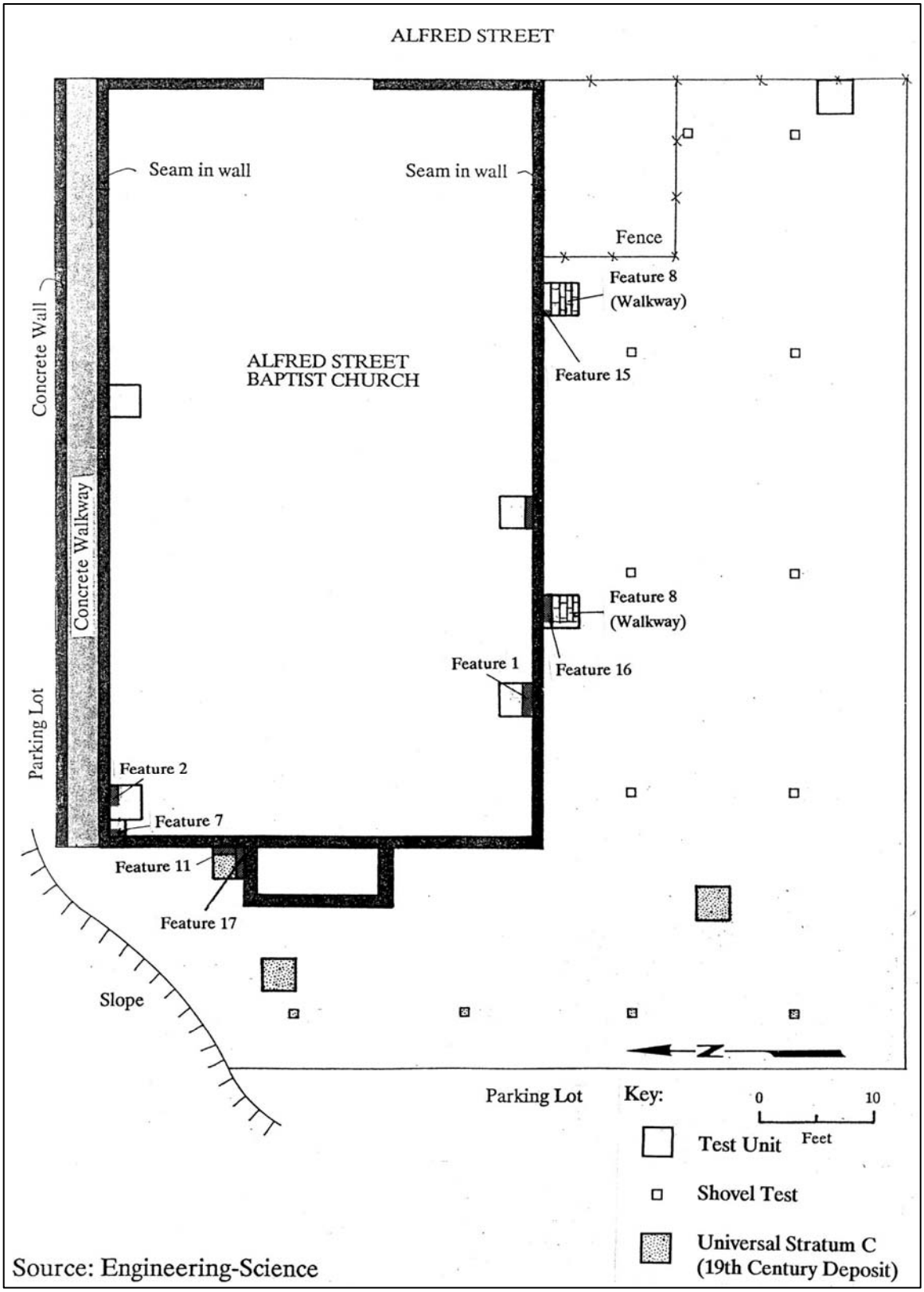
D. Summary and Conclusions

Although much of the project area, both inside and outside the church appears to have been disturbed, some intact historical archaeological resources were identified. These consisted of builder's trenches from the construction of the church, a brick walkway, and a 19th-century midden deposit (Figure 27). The exterior builder's trench has been disturbed by a later utility trench along the south wall. The only place where the exterior builder's trench survives undisturbed is along the rear, west, wall of the church, where Test Unit 6 was located. The interior trenches also may have been disturbed by the excavation of the basement, if they did in fact predate the basement. A ceramic sherd recovered from the exterior builder's trench provides a terminus post quem date for the construction of the church of after ca. 1830. The fact that the trench appears to be overlaid by the 19th-century deposit indicates that the church was probably not built much after the mid-19th-century. The history of the church property and its construction history is summarized below.

1803	Colored Baptist Society established
1818	Land granted to Jesse Henderson, Evan Williams, and Daniel Taylor
1830	First Colored Baptist Church established
1836	Meeting house constructed on Alfred Street property
1842	Lot granted for use of African Baptist Church congregation
1817	South lot occupied by Beckley family
1855	Earlier church replaced by new brick structure
1871-91	Organ vestibule and front of church added
1897	Church basement excavated
1919	Church purchases south lot

The church is significant for its architecture, its research potential, and for its association with "The Bottoms", one of the earliest African-American communities in Alexandria.

Two resources were discovered in the yard that are not immediately associated with the church architecture; a brick walkway and an intact 19th-century stratum. The 19th-century stratum (Universal Stratum C) is felt to be a significant resource. The residents of this lot in the 19th-century were free African-American tenants, the Beckley family. Probably domestic midden, this deposit has the potential to provide valuable information on the free African-American life in Alexandria in the 19th-century. The data recovered can be compared to that from other free African-American sites investigated in Alexandria, such as the Coleman Site (Cressey 1985). This deposit was encountered only in the westernmost part of the yard, extending south and west from the west end of the church.



Alfred Street Baptist Church

Figure 27. Archaeological Resources Identified in Phase I

The second resource discovered was the brick walkway (Feature 8). All we know of Feature 8 was that it was laid after ca. 1720, but it could have been constructed anytime up to the present. Although the presence of the walkway is potentially of interest, there is little other information to be gained by intensive investigation of the walkway itself. Its chronological relationship with the 19th-century layer should be clarified, but this can be carried out in conjunction with the investigation of the 19th-century stratum at the rear of the lot.

In conclusion, the Alfred Street Baptist Church and the cultural deposit in the western part of the yard are significant resources, capable of contributing to our knowledge of life in one of the earliest African-American neighborhoods in Alexandria (Cressey et al. 1982; Cressey 1985). However, it is felt that the research potential of the church would best be addressed through architectural analysis and additional historical research. No further archaeological work is recommended in the interior of the historic church structure. As these areas will be disturbed by construction activities, additional archaeological work is recommended in the western part of the yard, west and south of the church to further investigate the 19th-century stratum discovered there. No further work is recommended in the eastern part of the lot as this area appears to have been disturbed.

E. Recommendations

Further archaeological work was recommended in the yard area to the west of the historic church. This was the location of an early free black settlement. This area of the property will be subject to disturbance by construction activities in preparation for the building of a driveway and parking lot. In addition, the area adjacent to the west wall of the historic church building should be further examined prior to the time when the wall is underpinned. This would allow for further examination of the construction of the foundation.

No further archaeological work was recommended in the interior of the historic church building. Further research into the unusual architectural features discovered during this project would be best accomplished through architectural analysis and historical research rather than through additional archaeological work in the basement.

No further work was recommended in the yard area to the southeast of the historic church because of the lack of potentially significant archaeological resources.